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Agenda item 6 (a)
Consideration of reports: reports submitted by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

List of issues in relation to the third periodic report of the Republic of Moldova

Addendum

Replies of the Republic of Moldova to the list of issues*

[Date received: 28 August 2017]

I. General information

Question 1

1. In line with Action Plan for implementation of Covenant, through 2011-2016, Ministry of Justice ensured implementation of Law No.231 of November 25, 2011, on Justice Reform Strategy, aimed at ensuring accessible, efficient, independent, transparent, professional, accountable justice, according to European and international standards, ensuring rule of law, respect for human rights, contributing to increasing society's trust in the act of justice. In 2016, Guaranteed Legal Assistance National Council provided legal assistance to 866 crime victims, from 01.01.2017 to 28.04.2017 – 22 cases. Ministry of Justice developed and promoted a range of draft laws, implemented principle of zero tolerance to corruption in justice sector – mainly by distinct integrity packages:

- Law No. 178 of 25.07.2014 on Disciplinary liability of judges, aimed at Judicial accountability, improve quality of legal work, an effective disciplinary response to acts, combating corruption;
- Law No. 326 of 23.12.2013 introduced new provisions – accountability of judiciary and other actors in justice sector, including public sector (Criminal Code improvements: forbidden interdiction of the judge, observance of principles of impartiality, requirement of polygraph testing for judges and prosecutors candidates; Inclusion of a new rule in Criminal Code – "exercised corruption" (Article 106); review of sanctions in Criminal Code on corruption offences, increase of fines; introduction of new offense component "Illicit Enrichment" in Criminal Code.

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

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2. The second law package provided a legal framework to streamline work of National Integrity Authority, institutional and operational independence, reforming current mechanism of declaration income, property, personal interests, conflicts of interest, systematized in a single legislative act, avoiding duplication of requested information from subjects of declaration. Aimed at increasing moral probity of public officials and prestige of public authorities, streamlining mechanisms for declaring wealth, personal interests by public officials/officials of public dignity and their family members.

- Law No. 325 of 23.12.2013 — Assessment of institutional integrity, aimed at preventing corruption in law enforcement bodies and public authorities, exposed to increased risks of corruptibility. Law was adjusted in accordance with Constitutional Court decision of 15.05.2015;
- Law No. 132 of 17.06.2016 on National Integrity Authority;
- Law No. 133 of 17.06.2016 on Declaration of property and personal interests;
- Law No. 134 of 17.06.2016 on amending some legislative acts.

3. Statistical reporting for application of legal rules mentioned above is the responsibility of competent authorities. (e.g. Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) is monitoring and evaluating implementation of Covenant, drawing up institutional and policy plans, core components being included in MIA Operational Plans).

Question 2

4. The 2014 Housing and Population Census registered data on ethnicity, mother tongue, usual communication language and religion. Respondents provided answers voluntarily and registered according to person's free declaration. According to the census, ethnic composition of population of Republic of Moldova is:

Table 1
Ethnical composition of the population, 2014 Housing and Population Census

Ethnicity	*Percentage*
Moldovans — majority ethnic group	75.1%
Romanians	7%
Ukrainians	6.6%
Gagauz	4.6%
Russians	4.1%
Bulgarians	1.9%
Roma	0.3%
Other nationalities	0.5%

5. Compared to 2004 Population Census data percentage of Moldovans declined by 1.0%, number of Romanians increased by 4.8%. The share of Russian and Ukrainian population decreased respectively by 1.9% and 1.8%, last 10 years, number of Bulgarians, Gagauz and Roma people — have not changed significantly. Number of smaller ethnic groups living in Moldova is as follows: Belarusians — 2.828 pers., Jewish — 1.597 pers., Polish — 1.404 pers., Armenians — 1.080 pers, Germans — 914 pers., Azerbaijani — 667 pers.

6. Reporting on their mother tongue, 56.7% of the population (every second respondent), declared Moldovan language as their mother tongue; 23.5% declared — Romanian language. Russian language is considered mother tongue for 9.7% of total population; Gagauz — 4.2%, Ukrainian — 3.9%; Bulgarian — 1.5%.

7. Data on usual communication language was also collected in 2014 census: 54.6% of total population of the country usually speak Moldovan; 24.0% — Romanian; 14.5% — Russian; 2.7% — Ukrainian; same share for Gagauz language; 1.0% — Bulgarian. About

0.5% speak other languages, except mentioned above. Although mostly Ukrainians, Gagauz and Bulgarians reported their mother tongue as nationality language, but, every second Ukrainian, every third Bulgarian and Gagauz, usually speak Russian language. Moldovans that usually speak Russian — represent 5.7% of the total.

8. The 2014 census also provided information on distribution of population by religion. 96.8% (2,528,152 people) of total population are Orthodox. People of other religion are: Baptists (Baptist evangelical Christians) — 1.0% of total, Jehovah's Witnesses — 0.7% (17,341 persons), Pentecostals — 0.4% (10,049 pers.), Seventh-day Adventists — 0.3% (9,063 pers.), Catholics — 0.1% (2,745 pers.), Lutherans — 2,291 pers. Furthermore, 2,009 people are Muslim, 584 persons practice Judaism. Share of people declaring themselves as atheists and agnostics was 0.2% of total, in decrease by 1.2% compared to 2004. 193,000 people have not declared religion, comprising 6.9% of country's population.

9. Central Public Authorities also collect statistical data by domains (e.g. Ministry of Health quarterly collects, analyses and uses disaggregated medical and demographic indicators according age, gender and environment — urban, rural — for planning and implementation of sectoral policies, abortion rate by age, abortion rate and birth rates at adolescent of 15-19 years old), maternal mortality rate by causes of death, by environments and age groups, proportion of births assisted by medical staff. Tuberculosis incidence and prevalence indicators are collected from SIME TB database, disaggregated by age, gender and environment. Indicators on incidence of predominantly sexually transmitted diseases are collected disaggregated by age and gender annually.

Question 3

10. Official Bulletin (Monitorul Oficial 110-114/278, 09.05.2014):

- Provisions of Law 52 of 03.04.2014 Ombudsman's Office, Art.27;
- Chapter VI (art. 34-38);
- http://lex.justice.md/md/352794/-Ro;
- http://lex.justice.md/md/352794/-Ro;
- http://lex.justice.md/viewdoc.php?action=view&view=doc&id=352794&lang=2;
- Russian-Глава VI ОФИС НАРОДНОГО АДВОКАТА.

Question 4

11. In November 2016, Moldova realised II-rd cycle of Universal Periodic Review (UPR), at UN Human Rights Council (CDO), for transposing at national level recommendations formulated by UN member states for reporting at third assessment cycle in 2021. To optimize process, new policy document on human rights for 2017-2021 (PNADO III), was defined, by Order of the Minister of Justice No. 1056 of 18 November, 2016, establishing inter-institutional Working Group, mandated to elaborate, in 2017, the National Action Plan on Human Rights (PNADO) III. The new document will reflect UPR Recommendations, conclusions and observations received by Republic of Moldova under special procedures of UN, 11 and CoE Conventional Committees. Implementation of National Action Plan on Human Rights 2011-2014 (PNADO) was monitored by UNDP implementation Commission, provided by Ministry of Justice secretariat. Impact of PNADO 2011-2014 was assessed by independent experts, contracted CoE Office in Chișinău and Office of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.[1] Results of study were addressed in public discussion organized under aegis of Ministry of Justice on 28 September 2015. Details on elaboration of PNADO III may be consulted at: http://www.justice.gov.md/pview.php?l=ro&id=30.

[1] http://www.justice.gov.md/public/files/drepturile_omului/2016/PNADO_EVALUARE.pdf

Implementation of National Action Plan on Human Rights (PNADO) 2011-2014 and its impact

12. PNADO actions — taken by the Ministry of Interior:

- Amendment of Government Decision No. 493 of 07 July 2011 on approving Regulations of Center for Temporary Placement of Aliens, concerning placement in isolators for security reasons, approved by GovDecision No. 1163 of 22 October 2016;
- Amendment of Law No. 270 of 18 December 2008 on Asylum in Republic of Moldova, in conformity with Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for qualification of third-country nationals and stateless persons, benefiting of refugees status, or persons in need of international protection and content of protection granted; and Council Directive 2003/86/EC of 22 September 2003 on right to family reunification;
- Have been amended some legislative acts, approved by Law No. 151 of July 7, 2016, for adjustment of legislation to Directive 2011/95/EU, Directive 2013/32/EU, Directive 2013/33/EU. These changes consist in strengthening procedural safeguards of vulnerable persons (in particular minors and unaccompanied minors), extending the range of rights granted to beneficiaries of international protection, with regard to healthcare, access to all forms of education and financial assistance, issues related to accommodation.

13. PNADO actions have been taken for ensuring integration of aliens in Republic of Moldova and observance by law of their rights: On May 20, 2016 was approved GovDecision No. 632 on approval of amount of financial aid granted to refugees and beneficiaries of humanitarian protection, in 2016, which represents 15% of average monthly salary in economy. On February 16, 2016, by Order No.42-26/46/128/121-A/107-A was approved Mechanism of inclusion of aliens in integration activities, signed by MAI, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, MLSPF, CNAS, National Insurance Company in Medicine. PNADO actions included, strengthening and developing capacities and services provided to aliens in custody (Center for temporary placement of aliens within Migration and Asylum Bureau), through 2016 on medical services. Within Placement Center benefited 57 Persons; of legal counseling — 40 persons.

Protection of human rights, women's rights against violence, combating domestic violence

14. Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF) in cooperation with other partners is elaborating a financing mechanism on minimum social services on account of special transfers from state budget provided in annual budget law.

In case of domestic violence:

- Ensure prompt and effective police response in all cases of domestic violence, issuing court decisions on victim protection within a legally prescribed period of 24 hours;
- Increasing number, geographical spread and shelter capacity for victims of domestic violence;
- Organization of activities to stimulate domestic violence awareness among police officers, prosecutors, judges, social workers and general public.

15. In reporting period under National Referral System, based on data stored at National Coordination Unit within MLSPF, were reflected cases identified by Territorial Multidisciplinary Teams and other national actors, such as International Organization for Migration in Moldova (IOM). Assistance and Protection Center subordinated to MLSPF, 478 victims of domestic violence (301 adults and 177 minors) were identified and assisted.

Major goals

- Development of infrastructure of services for victims of domestic violence Elaborated draft GovDecision on approving Regulations on organization and

functioning of free Telephone Service for Victims of Domestic Violence, including gender-based violence and Minimum quality standards (submitted for approval to central public authorities and other bodies by letter No. 08/1726 of November 14, 2016.

- Organizing and conducting capacity-building seminars for specialists with competences in field of preventing and combating domestic violence:
- Trainings and seminars organised in 2016:
    - April 2016 — two workshops for police officers and prosecutors, on human trafficking, at IOM initiative in Moldova and Council of Europe.
    - June 8-9, 2016 — "Incorporation of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings", for representatives of Employment Territorial Agencies.
    - June 17, 2016, "Identification and reference to protection and assistance of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings. The role of consular officer."
    - June 28-29, 2016 — "Providing State-guaranteed legal services for victims and potential victims of human trafficking: new trends and challenges", for representatives of Legal Assistance Section, within District Council.

16. Continuous training of multidisciplinary teams at district and community levels was ensured. Four training sessions were conducted on the topic "Strengthening capacities of community multidisciplinary team members of National Referral System for Protection and Assistance of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings and Family Violence (SNR) Working with its beneficiaries":

- 22-25 November 2016, Edinet Rayon strengthened capacities of members of 32 multidisciplinary teams, 128 specialists trained;
- December 1, 2016, Basarabeasca District, strengthening capabilities of members of 7 multidisciplinary teams, 28 specialists trained.
- December 13-16, 2016, Telenesti district, strengthening capacities of members of 31 multidisciplinary teams, 104 specialists trained.
- December 19-21, 2016, Drochia Rayon strengthened capabilities of members of 27 multidisciplinary teams, 83 specialists trained.

Development of information campaigns to raise public awareness, combat phenomenon of family and society violence, including young people:

17. Slogan of 2016 National Campaign was "Break circle of violence! Make a step toward change".

18. Following activities were carried out as priority:

- 25 November 2016 s. Boşcana organized "Campaign Opening 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence";
- Public discussion "10 Years Against Violence", organized by Joint Platform of Coordination Council of Dialog Platform of Women MPs of Parliament of Republic of Moldova;
- December 6, 2016 "Presentation of study on estimation costs of domestic violence";
- December 9, 2016 "International Campaign Closing Event 16 days of activism against basic violence, organized under Vice-Prime Minister auspices, presenting activities totals carried out during Campaign";
- 12 December — regional forum "No Violence", organized by Coordination Council of Joint Dialogue Platform of Deputy MP Women of Moldovan Parliament.

19. Capacity-building seminars, workshops on preventing and combating domestic violence were also organized. As partners in organizing activities dedicated to National Campaign, were both governmental and non-governmental institutions AND development

partners. Matrix of Campaign activities included 75 activities at central and local level. Events included in Action Matrix dedicated to Campaign "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence", included about 72 national and local actions.

Strengthen legislative framework on prevention and combating domestic violence:

20. For harmonizing national legislation with Istanbul Convention provisions, Parliament adopted Law No. 196 of July 28, 2016, on amending some legislative acts.

Among most innovative aspects of bill are:

- Modification of definitions of Law No. 45 of: domestic violence, moral injury, aggressor and inclusion of new definitions: crisis situations/critical situations, emergency restraint order;
- Improvement of victim protection mechanism through new institution emergency restraint order, provisional measure to protect victim of domestic violence, applied by police for up to 10 days. Under this mechanism, aggressor will be removed immediately from family home and banned to prevent repetition/committing violent actions;
- On December 15, 2016, Council of Europe Convention on Prevention of Fight against Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, signed in Istanbul on 11 May 2011, was signed by President of Republic of Moldova Decree No. 2511-VII;
- Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family elaborated draft GovDecision on approval of National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence for years 2017-2022, sent to competent institutions for approval by letter No.08/1997 of December 30, 2016. Purpose of Strategy — ensure systematic approach to phenomenon of violence against women, including domestic violence, to diminish phenomenon and ensure effective response of competent bodies in case of domestic violence.

Trafficking in human beings

21. Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings continues to be a priority for the Government, as expressed by national policies and commitments that meet European and international standards.

22. It is important to ensure prosecution of traffickers, to pronounce sentences proportionate to gravity of trafficking crimes and ensure protection of victims of trafficking in human beings during trials and support victims of trafficking, through measures necessary for their recovery and psychological assistance.

23. Ensuring access to assistance and protection of victims of trafficking through National Referral System for Protection and Assistance of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. In the reporting period under National Referral System based on data stored at National NFC Coordination Unit within MLSPF, which reflects both cases identified by Territorial Multidisciplinary Teams as well as by other national actors, such as International Organization for Migration in Moldova (ILO) and assistance and protection center subordinated to MMPSF, which reflects a total of 123 Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings, including 77 women (including 11 children) and 46 men (including 3 children).

24. Elaborating/reviewing and concluding bilateral treaties between states on identification and repatriation of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings. Between September 5-8, 2016, a bilateral meeting with Ukrainian side, with actors in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings field, was organized, on updating provisions of Agreement of Republic of Moldova with Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on cooperation in protection and repatriation of victims of trafficking human adults and children, unaccompanied children and migrants in difficulty, which took place in Odessa, Ukraine. Draft GovDecision amending Regulation on procedure of repatriation children and adults-victims of trafficking in human beings, illegal trafficking of migrants and unaccompanied children, was elaborated and submitted for approval to Ministries, by letter

No. 08/1011 of 29.06.16. Project was sent for legal expertise to Ministry of Justice, by No. 08/1965 26.12.2016.

25. Developing monitoring and evaluation system for assistance to victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings:

- On April 12, 2016, a round table was held entitled "Evaluating the Implementation of the National Referral System Strategy for the Protection and Assistance of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings" (NRS). The event was attended by representatives of Ministries, International Organization for Migration (IOM), multidisciplinary teams, representatives of civil society and independent experts. Support of monitoring activities within National Referral System and assisted cases took place in 4 round tables on "Role of multidisciplinary teams in case management within National Referral System", as follows:
    - October 11, 2016: Nisporeni, Basarabeasca and Orhei districts — participation of 8 specialists at territorial level.
    - October 12, 2016: Ştefan-Voda, Hincesti and Călăraşi districts — participation of 11 specialists at territorial level.
    - November 8, 2016: Cantemir, Căuşeni and Bălţi — participation of 11 specialists at territorial level.
    - November 9, 2016: Anenii-Noi, Dubasari and Floresti districts — participation of 10 territorial specialists.

26. Ensuring access to quality services through placement centers, of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings, including trafficking in children.

27. Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings is a highly specialized institution providing crisis assistance services to victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings identified both abroad and inside country. Center is often first point of contact in Republic of Moldova for victims of trafficking in human beings who return home.

28. According to Organization and Functioning Regulation approved by MLSPF, by Order No. 083 of March 26, 2010, Center provides assistance in short-term crisis situations, including temporary placement, medical, psychological, legal and social assistance for the rehabilitation, socialization and preparation for (re) integration of beneficiaries into family and/or community. High number of children at risk and children separated from their parents has led to the need for construction and renovation work to expand capacity of the Center to meet specific needs of beneficiaries, especially children. Considering child's best interests, standards of social services for children are also based on separation of adult children.

29. In the framework of Project "Addressing negative effects of migration on minors and families left in the country" funded by European Union in collaboration with International Organization for Migration, MLSPF planned, initiated and finalized the construction of annex to the Center for Victim Assistance and Protection and Potential Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings, thus creating a separate compartment exclusively for children. The Child Wing will help to increase quality of services provided within Center, facilitate access to quality services in the assistance and protection of victims and potential victims of human trafficking and will make it possible to personalize needs of child and adult as beneficiaries in this institution. The annex has the capacity for accommodation for 10 children;, work rooms for specialists, as well as halls dedicated to educational-recreational activities (library, computer room, playroom) for children. Bedrooms are separated by sex and accommodate a maximum of 3 children. Center will provide care and education, rehabilitation, (re) integration, medical, social and psychological assistance to children in need and to children separated from their parents by providing them with optimal conditions for harmonious development. These categories of children will be assisted by being unaccompanied by adults.

30. On 02.06.2016 the emergency placement service for children victims and potential victims of violence, neglect and exploitation was inaugurated on the existing platform

within the Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. Its purpose is to temporarily protect the child in difficulty, socialize and (re)integrate it into extended or adoptive biological family and community integration. In temporary placement center are offered various social services: hosting, maintenance, nutrition, cognitive skills, communication and behavioral abilities, support in educational inclusion, counseling for family members/carers, professional orientation. In 2016, 82 children were assisted, and not accompanied by adults, 48 of whom benefited from foster care under CAP.

31. National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings:

- Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings continues to be a priority for Government of Republic of Moldova, as expressed by national policies and commitments that meet European and international standards. Republic of Moldova is still a country of origin, transit and destination. For this reason, it periodically develops and improves national anti-trafficking policy framework by ensuring respect for rights of adult victims and children. These goals are achievable by applying principle of non-discrimination, unconditional access to assistance and protection services, impartial treatment and social inclusion. Taking traffickers to account, ensuring penalties equal to seriousness of offense, remains one of essential objectives of law enforcement.

32. As of August 1, 2016, Prosecutor's Office was reorganized in accordance with provisions of Law No.122 of 22.07.2014 for approval of Prosecutor's Reform Conception, Law No. 3 of 25.02.2016 regarding Prosecutor's Office, Law No. 152 of 01.07.2016 for amendment and completion of some legislative acts and Law No. 159 of 07.07.2016 regarding specialized prosecutors' offices. As a result of reform, competence to manage and prosecute cases of more complex and committed organized crime groups was attributed to Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organized Crime and Special Cases of General Prosecutor's Office.

33. With support of partners (US Embassy, IOM Mission to Moldova, OSCE Mission to Moldova), two hearing rooms (one for adults and one for children) were set up within CCTP during 2016, consolidation process continued on friendly justice system to adult/child.

34. On 29.07.2016, Law No. 137 on Rehabilitation of Victims of Crime was adopted. Victims of trafficking in human beings (according Article 165 of CC) and victims of trafficking in children (according Article 206 CC), are beneficiaries of this law. Law regulates victims' right to financial compensation granted by State for damage caused by crime, which will come into force on 1 January 2018, and benefit of following support services: informational counseling crime victims concerning their rights and services; psychological counseling; legal aid guaranteed by state, which entered into force on March 9, 2017. Financial compensation granted to victims of trafficking in human beings will constitute a first step of Republic of Moldova towards recommendations made by international evaluators in the field of trafficking.

35. In order to unify the strategic planning of national policies for preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, in August 2016 started the process of elaborating National Strategy for Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for years 2017-2022 (National Strategy) and Action Plan for Implementation National Strategy, for years 2017-2019, a process coordinated by the Permanent Secretariat.

36. Measures to prevent the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings should also focus on reducing vulnerability of groups at risk, starting with areas such as education, labor market integration, social assistance and protection, etc. An indicator for prevention of trafficking in human beings and reduction of vulnerability is active involvement, awareness raising and information of general public on promotion of legal employment, protection and assistance services that can be accessed in the country and abroad.

37. In 2016, the National Employment Agency (ANOFM) organized informative seminars, information campaigns, job fairs, including on-line fairs, etc. (See additional information to Question 15).

- In PARE 1 + 1, in 2016, ODIMM organized 10 entrepreneurial training sessions, attended by 246 people.

38. Between 2011 and 2015, our country hosted two GRETA expert rounds, which monitor implementation of the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Beings and appreciate policy framework developed to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings, assistance and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings. Recommendations of external evaluators have become implementation priorities, being included in National Plan for Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking 2012-2013 and 2014-2016.

39. On March 11, 2016, GRETA Evaluation Report of Government of Republic of Moldova on implementation of Council of Europe Convention on Prevention and Control of Trafficking in Human Beings (second round) was approved, containing immediate and additional recommendations.

40. Government of Republic of Moldova presented its Report on implementation level of immediate recommendations — on April 18, 2017, during meeting of National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister, Andrei Galbur, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration. Event was attended by representatives of central public authorities, international partners and members of non-governmental organizations.

41. During the meeting, main achievements of Republic of Moldova in field of combating trafficking in human beings, including: adoption of law on rehabilitation of victims of crime, which also regulates state's financial compensation for damage caused by crime, including victims of trafficking, will enter into force on 1 January 2018, inaugurating an emergency placement center for child victims and potential victims of child violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking, assistance to victims and potential victims of trafficking in Center of Assistance and Protection Center Under MLSPF, as well as through SNR system, provided by multidisciplinary teams, provided assistance in repatriating children and adults, victims of trafficking in human beings, unaccompanied children identified abroad and in process of family/social reintegration, development of awareness information campaigns, seminars, workshops, etc.

42. Hearing of National Anti-Trafficking in Human Beings Report for 2016, implementation of National Plan for 2014-2016, Report on Implementation of National Referral System Strategy and Report on Crime Situation in 2016, in area of combating trafficking in human beings, took place and approved. Deputy Prime Minister Andrei Galbur called for involvement of all national authorities responsible for implementation of National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (TFU) for years 2017-2022 and Action Plan for 2017-2019, as recommended in United States Department of State and GRETA reports. MFAEI will be institution that will promote the project to Government for examination and approval.

43. During 2016, 3 consular consultations were organized: Moldovan-Ukrainian consular consultations (24 February 2016, Chisinau), Moldovan-Italian consular consultations (17 March 2016, Chisinau), Moldovan-Turkish consular consultations (September 6, 2016, Ankara). The Emirate Party, as in previous years (2012-2016), did not respond to request of Republic of Moldova to hold consular consultations in 2016.

II. Issues relating to general provisions of the Covenant (arts. 1-5)

Maximum available resources (art. 2 (1))

Question 5

44. See: Annex E_Table Qs 5, 11, 27_Public_spending_2011-2016; (5 — education, health care, social protection, housing and services; 11 — community mediator' services; 27 — social housing from the state budget; *Source:* Ministry of Finance.

45. Law on social aid No. 133-XVI of 13 June 2008, ensures minimum guaranteed monthly income to disadvantaged families granting social assistance/aid for cold period of the year established in accordance with global average monthly income of each family and social assistance need: 2013 (financed) — MDL 311.9 million, 2014 (financed) — 334.2 million lei, 2015 (financed) — 577, 7 million lei, 2016 (financed) — 821.1 million lei.

46. Strategy on Water Supply and Sewerage was approved by Government Decision No. 662 of 13 June 2007; It was after repealed and replaced by Government Decision No. 199/20.03.2014, approving Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy (2014-2028).

47. In July 2016 water treatment plant in village Grozeşti was put into operation, magmatic waterway was built in Nisporeni-Vărzăreşti-Grozeşti — length 16.8 km; distribution networks built — length 101.8 km. About 2400 beneficiaries in Nisporeni supplied with water, Vărzăreşti — 1,000, Grozeşti — 545.

48. Water Supply and Sewerage Companies were developed, in 2016, created the Regional Operator, providing water and sanitation services in 7 districts in the northern region of the Republic of Moldova. 18 Local Councils approved decisions expressing agreement to participate in creation of regional operator. The Ministry of Environment elaborated draft Government Decision on participation of Agency "Apele Moldovei" to founding private state-owned trading company S.A. "Aqua Nord". The Regional Operator will be registered with the State Registration Chamber. After approval.

49. In 2013-2014 were carried out actions as: Elaboration and implementation the mechanism of Water Law No. 272/23 December 2011; Implementation of National Water Supply and Sewerage Project; Maintaining sectoral policies in water sector.

50. On 03.05.2017 the Government approved the participation of Agency "Apele Moldovei" on founding the state-owned joint stock company S.A. "Aqua Nord".

Question 6

51. According amendments to Law No. 397-XV/16.10.2003 on local public finances (enforced 1 January 2015), volume of financing of social services at local level depends on priorities of level I and level II local public authorities, considering financial situation, targeting resources according local needs, prioritizing exclusively the use of financial resources according to local needs. Law No. 68/05.04.2012 on National Decentralization Strategy and its Action Plan and European Charter of Local Self-Government, guarantees right and capacity of local public authorities to administer, under own responsibility, in favor of population, important part of public activities. This right stipulated by Constitution of Republic of Moldova, Law No. 435-XVI/ 28.12.2006 on administrative decentralization and Law No. 436-XVI/28.12.2006 on local public administration, establishing decision-making, organizational, financial management autonomy of local public administration authorities, right to initiative in all matters on local public affairs management, according to law, within boundaries of administered territory.

52. Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family and partners, is elaborating financing mechanism of minimum social services, accounting on special transfers from state budget, planned in annual budget law. Development and management of community

social services to socially vulnerable categories, monitoring quality of social services, according to Law No. 435/28.12.2006 on administrative decentralization, is responsibility and activity domain of local public authorities of level II, supported by implementation of local public finance reform. The law was republished in Official Bulletin (Monitorul Oficial) No. 397-399/703 of 31.12.2014, improved.

53. See as also Q 5. *Source*: Ministry of Finance.

54.

Laws of the Republic of Moldova

397/16.10.2003 Law on local public finances//Monitorul Oficial 248-253/996, 19.12.2003.

Question 7

55. Corruption cases reported, investigated and prosecuted — last four years:

Table 2

Corruption cases reported, investigated and prosecuted

Cases of corruption year	*2013*	*2014*	*2015*	*2016*
Reported	269	352	307	483
Detected	215	294	248	342
Prosecuted	209	271	210	299

Source: National Anticorruption Center

56. In the judicial system, by the Center, were initiated 114 criminal cases, of which:

- Prisons — 7;
- Probation offices — 11;
- Courts of law — 3;
- Advocacy — 63;
- Bailiff's offices — 30.

57. Last four years, regarding high level officials — 21 criminal cases were initiated. In 2013 Parliament voted package of anti-corruption laws, introducing important measures to prevent and combat corruption as: professional integrity testing of public officials, criminalizing unlawful enrichment, widespread confiscation and increasing financial sanctions for corruption offenses.

58. An important preventive tool was National Anticorruption Strategy (NAS) 2011-2016, with three action plans of NAS implementing: Action Plan 2012-2013; Action Plan 2014-2015; Action Plan 2016. NAS goal: reducing corruption in public and private sectors by achieving two general objectives: transform corruption from a low-risk activity with benefits, into an inconvenient and high-risk activity, contributing to developing "zero tolerance" environment towards corruption in Republic of Moldova.

59. On 15.06.2016, draft Law on Integrity, was submitted to Parliament, cultivating public integrity and climate of "zero tolerance" towards corruption within public entities, developing integrity in public sector at political, institutional and professional levels. It establishes responsibilities of public entities, anti-corruption agencies and other competent authorities on integrity and sanctions of lack of integrity. Parliament adopted Law on Integrity on 30 March 2017.

60. Anti-corruption measures: mandatory anticorruption expertise of draft legislative acts and draft Government acts, assessing compliance with national and international anti-corruption standards, identifying rules that may favor or foster corruption, developing recommendations for effects exclusion. In 2014-2016, 2.770 legal acts drafts were examined, of which: 600 — reviewed, necessary recommendations drafted; in case of 2.179

— Drawn anticorruption expertise reports (of which 1.090 draft laws, 1.012 draft government decisions and 77 draft departmental documents).

61. For identifying institutional factors favouring/could favour corruption and developing recommendations on how exclude or mitigate effects, have been developed integrity plans by Anticorruption Center, institutional corruption risk assessment is carried out.

62. Anticorruption Center applied the new preventing corruption tool: adoption of Law on Professional Integrity Testing No. 325 of 23.12.2013, published 14.02.2014. Law was adjusted to Decision No. 7 of 16.04.2015 of Constitutional Court. National legislation was adjusted to provisions of Law No. 325 of 23.12.2013 and institutional integrity assessment was introduced.

63. Results of law implementation: increased rate of denunciations of corruption by public officials — 70 times in first 3.5 months of 2015, compared to 2013, due to tests carried and trainings held before tests.

64. Measures taken to address practices of taking/giving bribes as to obtain public services: trainings for preventing phenomena were organized — in 2013 — 168 trainings (39 — in health and education sectors), 542 — in 2014, 555 — in 2015, 634 — in 2016 (263 — health and education sector).

65. Last four years, Anticorruption Center organized awareness raising campaigns and partnership training activities in educational institutions, camps, etc.:

- "Youth Against Corruption in Action", as result "Anti-Corruption Young Guardians" team was created, a plan of activities approved to prevent corruption among young people; anticorruption competition "Art Graffiti" organised and "Stop Corruption" contests, with winners designation;
- "Future Without Corruption", Center's employees conducted an anticorruption training session for teenagers and educators in "Sadovo" camp;
- Curriculum for master's degree course on anticorruption was elaborated in collaboration with Academy of Public Administration, since September 2013, at day section and reduced frequency;
- "Be a disciplined pupil. Don't give bribe to learn", "Future without corruption" for high school students and colleges;
- Campaign "I am for Education through Integrity" in collaboration with State University of Moldova and USM Student Self-Government;
- Project Student's National Anticorruption Centre/NAC launched in collaboration with Students Association of Law Faculties of Moldova, took place Summer School of Student's NAC on "Training of anticorruption trainers";
- Development of pilot project "Children's understanding meaning of corruption "in children summer camps;
- Campaign "Discourage corruption through denunciation" launched, development video spot to increase citizens' participation for preventing/combating corruption acts through information and awareness;
- A new edition drawing and painting contest "Talent doesn't take bribe. Integrity in images" launched, UNDP Moldova financial support, recorded 339 pupils' works from more 22 artistic education institutions from country.

66. Center's trainers participated in radio and TV broadcasts, addressing issues related to integrity within educational system, integrity of public agents, reporting and prevention of corruption.

67. On 30.03.2017 National Strategy on Integrity and Anti-corruption for 2017-2020, was adopted by Parliament Decision. New Strategy focuses on 7 pillars of integrity, set as priorities, on basis of National Integrity System's analysis: I. Parliament; II. Government, public sector and local public administration; III. Justice and anti-corruption agencies; IV. Central Electoral Commission and Political Parties; V. Court of Accounts; VI. People's

Advocate; VII. Private Sector. Actions for implementing priorities of each pillar are included in Action Plans, based on Strategy, focusing on implementation of laws adopted before 2017, less on adoption new laws (excepting projects mentioned as priority).

See: Annex Q.7 Corrupt. Statistics Educ. Health Prosecutor's Office
Source: Prosecutor's Office

68. Based on art. 7, paragraph 2, b), art. 16, para. 6, art. 22, para. 4 of Law No. 325 of 23 December 2013 on testing professional integrity, anti-corruption laws and measures are applied at level of Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and Government Decision No. 767 of September 19, 2014 was adopted for implementing Law 325. MIA Order issued No. 7 of 19 January 2015 on inappropriate influences exerted on MIA employees. By Order No. 231, August 8, 2014, Concept on Preventing Corruption Activities within MIA and its administrative authorities and subordinated institutions and Action Plan 2014-2016 of Concept Implementation, was approved.

Table 3
Number of corruption cases reported, investigated and prosecuted — last 4 years

Period (as of the 1 month of the)	2016	2017	2018	2019
Excessive power (art. 328 CC)	54	51	24	19
— accompanied by violence	12	6	[illegible]	[illegible]
Power abuse (art. 327 CC)	69	37	23	43
Negligence in Service(art. 329 CC)	8	11	5	10
Passive Corruption (art. 324 CC)	80	88	69	78
Influence of Traffic (art. 326 CC)	8	21	16	27
Active Corruption (art. 325 CC)	59	29	17	46

69. Draft MIA Order on lifestyle monitoring has been elaborated, aiming at identifying standards of living of civil servants with special status within MIA, related to legal remuneration, joint housing, etc.

Non-discrimination (art. 2 (2))

Question 8

70. Source: Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensure Equality.

71. Article 1 of Law No. 121 of 25.05.2012 on equality stipulates as purpose "preventing and combating discrimination and ensuring equality of all persons in territory of Republic of Moldova in political, economic, social, cultural and other spheres of life, regardless of race, color, nationality, ethnic origin, language, religion or belief, sex, age, disability, opinion, political affiliation or any other similar criterion". Although health, wealth, social origin, sexual orientation criteria are not mentioned in first article, they are referred to as "another similar criterion".

72. Criterion of sexual orientation is expressly provided in Article 7 paragraph 1 of Law No. 121 on Equality: prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation will apply in field of labour employment and occupation.

73. Constitution of Republic of Moldova, Article 16, states: all citizens of Republic of Moldova are equal before law and public authorities, irrespective of race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, religion, sex, opinion, political affiliation, wealth or social origin. Furthermore, list of protected criteria can be extended to criteria mentioned explicitly in Labor Code, which also contains criteria of: domicile, disability, HIV/AIDS infection, membership to or trade union activity, and other criteria unrelated to professional qualities. In case law examined by Council, have been recorded also other criteria such as: maternity, civil status, occupational status.

74. Central public administration authorities develop activities for implementation of anti-discrimination law.

75. In partnership with Foreign Policy Association and Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensure Equality, in 2014-2015, 16 training courses on prevention and eliminating discrimination were organized, participated 516 MIA representatives, adapting working practices to non-discrimination field, codes of ethics, internal regulations and criminal investigation procedures by ensuring equality. (Source: Ministry of International Affairs)

76. By MIA Order No. 69 of March 11, 2016 a gender unit was established, monitoring implementation of gender policies and examination draft normative acts, ensuring observance of non-discrimination principle.

77. On 25-28 April 2017, official visit of Moldovan delegation was held in Geneva, Switzerland, for presentation of 9th and 11th Periodical Reports on implementation of International Convention on Elimination of All Forms of racial discrimination (at 92nd UN Committee session on Elimination of Racial Discrimination). Moldovan delegation presented Regular Report (10th and 11th) on Convention implementation and issues related to prevention and combating hate crime, anti-Semitism offenses and related activities and implementation of relevant non-discrimination policies.

Question 9

78. Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensure Equality Eliminating Discrimination activities relate:

- Since 2013 Council registered 560 complaints invoking discrimination facts;
- 465 decisions issued — same period;
- 33 oral proceedings — drawn up;
- Out of the total number of decisions adopted, 93 decisions were challenged in the court, only 5 decisions were cancelled.

79. Protected criteria, situation of preventing and combating discrimination and areas of violation of equality and non-discrimination rights are annually presented in Council Reports. 2016 situation is set in Table below.

Table 4

Protected criteria based on decisions of the Equality Council

Grounds / Domains	Access to public services	Access to labour market	Access to justice	Exercise of human rights	Education	Total
Disability	23.53	2.94	5.88	0	8.82	41.18
Sex/Gender	0	5.88	0	8.82	0	14.71
Ethnic origin	5.88	0	0	0	0	5.88
Language	5.88	0	2.94	0	0	8.82
Age	2.94	2.94	0	0	0	5.88
Nationality	2.94	0	0	0	0	2.94
Social origin	0	0	0	2.94	0	2.94
Birth	2.94	0	0	0	0	2.94
Source of income/Service	8.82	0	0	0	0	8.82
Political affiliation	0	2.94	0	0	0	2.94

[1] www.egalitate.md/http://egalitate.md/index.php?pag=pagini&id=899&l=ro

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	0	0	0	2.94	0	2.94
Total	**42.94**	**14.71**	**8.82**	**14.71**	**8.82**	**100**

80. Article 11 of Law No.121 on Equality 25.05.2007 stipulates Council is assisted in its activity by an Administrative Office. Council's Rules of Procedure on Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality approved by Law No.298 of 21.12.2012, stipulate that Administrative Apparatus staff of Council shall provide its members with organizational, informational, scientific and analytical assistance and other assistance necessary for Council work. 2016 analysis identified barriers in effective performance of Council's functions, due to insufficient staffing, fluctuation of personnel, inadequate working conditions. Personnel fluctuation reached 44% (11 people) in 2016, with optimal fluctuation of 10-15% per year. Personnel fluctuation is driven by low pay levels compared to other public authorities, creating considerable disadvantage for Council, reducing productivity, additional costs and time for training new employees and, in consequence, reducing performance of institution.

81. Increase in volume of activities (increasing number of complaints, existence of about 90 files in examination in courts, elaboration analyses from perspective of non-discrimination standards), leads to need of changing limit number of personnel in administrative apparatus, at least 19 units.

82. Situation has not changed in providing a headquarter building corresponding to accessibility standards for persons with locomotor disabilities and minimum safety and health requirements at work place stipulated by Government Decision No. 353 of 04.05.2006. At present, each employee has 4.85 m2, which is below 7.5 m2 stipulated by normative acts in force. Officers assigned to Council do not have physical access to sanitary block. Situation shows lack of adequate working conditions for employees and Council members, as well for disabled people visiting the Council. Annual budget allocated to Council is reflected below:

Table 9

Annual budget allocated to the Equality Council, 2013-2016

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total budget	**1 mln MDL**	**3 916 thousand MDL**	**3 291.7 thousand MDL**	**3 431.3 thousand MDL**

Question 10

83. By Government Decree No.69 of January 23, 2013 on Determination of disability and work capacity, was reformed reorganized Republican Council for Medical Expertise of Vitality, to National Council for Determining Disability and work Capacity. Changes in determining disability system were established based on identification of impediments: before 2013, disability determination was divided between two institutions – for children, consultative medical councils of public sanitary institutions, subordinated to Ministry of Health, and for adults – by Medical Expertise Councils of Vitality, subordinated to Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family. Disability was determined by physicians based on diagnosis and symptoms and severity of disability, determined by access of people with disabilities to indemnities and social benefits, without emphasizing skills, potential of person, and educational inclusion recommendations, employment, access to social support services, etc. Basis for reform was regulation of institutional and procedural framework on disability determination in Law No. 60 of 30.03.2012 and Government Decision No. 69 of 23.01.2013 (Source: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF) and Ministry of Health (MH)).

84. Reform key elements of disability determination system, was initiated in 2013 consisting in:

- Unification of disability determination process of children and adults by ensuring evaluation of both categories by institution, subordinated to Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family;
- Strengthening institution responsible for disability determination by creating specific services and departments of human resources, legal, economic, financial, information technology, methodology and statistics, etc.;
- Hiring social work units (social workers, psycho-pedagogues) in teams for determination of children's disability and disability and working capacity in adults;
- Developing medical and social criteria in determining disability and working capacity;
- Drawing up and releasing each disabled person a Rehabilitation and Social Inclusion Program, with general recommendations on health, social, labor and education;
- Introducing additional steps in procedure for challenging disability degree by establishing Litigation Commission (in case of disagreement of person with decision on awarding right to disability/non-attribution of a certain degree of disability).

85. The public institution with plenipotentiary rights in determining disability and working capacity is the National Council for Determining Disability and Work Capacity (hereinafter NCDDWC), subordinated to Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family.

86. To further modernize and adapt national disability determination system to international standards has been elaborated Concept reforming disability determination system, which shall be approved by Government Decision. Reform shall modify structure, organization and functioning of National Council for Determination of Disability and Work Capacity and working tools applied by specialists on disability determination.

87. People with disabilities represent 5.1% of country's total population, children with disabilities represent 1.7% of total number of children of Republic of Moldova. According to severity disability degree, highest proportion have adults, severe disabilities among children see Table below.

Table 6
Number of persons with disabilities based on age and severity

Persons with disability		*Total*
People with severe disabilities		27 536
Persons with accentuated disabilities		116 741
People with average disabilities		36 847
Total		**181 124**
Including		
Adults	People with severe disabilities	22 422
	Persons with accentuated disabilities	112 139
	People with average disabilities	34 817
	Total	**169 378**
Children	People with severe disabilities	5 114
	Persons with accentuated disabilities	4 602
	People with average disabilities	2 030
	Total	**11 746**

88. Accessibility to infrastructure, transport and information.

89. Accessibility of persons with disabilities is regulated by Law No. 60 of 30.03.2012 on Social inclusion of persons with disabilities, laying down general provisions of accessibility for persons with disabilities and authorities responsible. Law establishes state policy on accessibility, design and construction of social infrastructure objects, housing arrangements, access to cultural, tourist and sports facilities, access to public transport and information for people with disabilities.

90. According to Law, Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure, other central and local public authorities, economic agents irrespective of ownership form, public associations, have obligation to adapt public transport means to needs of people with locomotor disabilities (manual guidance), adapt public transport stations, including tactile pavement marking access areas, entrance doors of transport means, display panels corresponding to needs of people with visual and auditory disabilities in public transport, prints means in large and contrasting colors, routes and signs of urban public transport, adapt pedestrian crossings and intersections of streets and public roads corresponding to needs of people with visual disabilities and hearing aids, mounts audible and visual signaling at intersections with intense traffic.

91. Ministry of Information Technology and Communications and other competent public authorities promote access of persons with disabilities to information and media, as well as to information technology and electronic communications.

92. Social objects are arranged to be accessible to persons with disabilities, equipped with access ways and installed in compliance with normative acts in force. Norms for adapting social infrastructure objectives to people with disabilities needs are approved by Ministry of Regional Development and Construction.

93. Responsibility for ensuring accessibility to infrastructure is competence of national building management body, central public administration authorities, local public administration authorities, economic agents, with any form of ownership, and participation of public associations.

94. Youth and Sports Ministry takes measures to improve accessibility of persons with disabilities to ensure access to sport sites and buildings, sports complexes, access ramps are installed at entrance, at Sports National Training Center and sports schools, under Ministry's responsibility.

Question 11

95. See: Annex I Table Qs 5, 11, 27 Public spending 2011-2016; (5 — education, health care, social protection, housing and services; 11 — community mediator' services; 27 — social housing from the state budget). *Source*: Ministry of Finance.

96. The Roma Action Plan 2011-2015, was adopted, establishing a number of priority areas to protect Roma people rights and promote their inclusion in society, including in education, health, housing, employment, culture, media and public administration.

97. Key results of Roma Action Plan 2011-2015 was establishment of Roma community mediators' network in over 40 targeted communities with significant Roma population. Important task of current Action Plan is to ensure continuity by introducing and promoting community mediators' service at national level aimed at facilitating Roma access to public services, enhancing communication between public authorities and Roma community, overcoming discriminatory attitudes towards Roma. Decentralization reform placed responsibility on local administrations to implement Action Plan, resulting in incomplete implementation of Action Plan.

98. New Roma Action Plan 2016-2020 was adopted in April 2016 (Decision of the Government nr. 734 of 9April 2016), inclu ding unrealized actions of previous Roma Action Plan, Government's commitment to continue and improve Roma social inclusion, addressing problems of Roma communities, based on Roma-specific approach.

99. Plan stipulates specific measures and responsibilities in education, health, labor and social protection, housing and community development fields, participation in decision-making and combating discrimination. Key element of new Roma Action Plan is realization of rights of Roma communities to participate in public life, decision-making and solving problems that affect them at different levels. Document includes new measures to ensure Roma social security on labour market.

100. Funding implementation of the Plan is made from state budget allocations with eventual support from European funds, technical assistance projects/programmes, public-private partnerships and other sources acceptable under national legislation, etc.

101. Annual local Roma Action Plans shall be elaborated by local authorities ensuring proportional and concrete implementation of envisaged activities in national Roma Action Plan 2016-2020, as well as allocation of adequate financial resources from state budget.

102. By Interethnic Relations Office (IRO), 10 ethno-cultural Roma organizations with republican status, registered by Ministry of Justice, are accredited: Juvlia Romani Public Association from Moldova; Roma Social Movement of Moldova; Union of Young Roma of Republic of Moldova "Tărna-Rom"; "Rare-rom" Public Organization; Scientific-Cultural Association "Elita Romani" of Republic of Moldova; Socio-Cultural Society "Tradition of Roma"; Roma Association of Republic of Moldova "RUBIN"; United Nation Alliance of Roma; "ROMANI-GRUP" Public Association; National Roma Center.

103. Leaders of ethno-cultural organizations of Roma in Republic of Moldova are part of Co-ordinating Council of Ethnocultural Organizations, functioning alongside Office, on public basis, as advisory body.

104. Collaboration and support of Roma organizations is priority for IRO involving them in country social-cultural life, developing dialogue and partnership with all authorities; Engaging in drafting proposals and recommendations to draft laws on inter-ethnic relations issues; Partial funding of national-cultural projects and programs, etc.

105. Effective collaboration with representatives of ethno-cultural organizations of Roma takes place in organizing actions on diverse occasions as: International Roma Day, where is involved Interethnic Relations Office in partnership with Roma Voice Coalition and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Office (UNHCHR) and organized actions to promoting cultural values and Romani language, and evoking problems of Roma people of social integration, etc.:

- A high-level meeting with members of Roma community;
- Opening of photo exhibition "The Roma Leaders: Past, Present and Future";
- Promoting image of Roma in Evening TV shows;
- Meeting successful Roma women;
- Roma civil society meeting representatives of international institutions accredited in RM, etc.

106. An effective tool for developing and expressing ethnic and cultural identity of Roma is House of Nationalities, that functions alongside IRO, where many cultural, information actions, roundtables, seminars, trainings are organized. In 2016, with active involvement of ethnic Roma were organized:

- International Roma Day (7-11 April 2016);
- International Scientific-Practical Conference "Interethnic poli-ethnic Cooperation" (October 28, 2016);
- Round table Roma youth-participation, Local Public Authorities and Roma Voice Coalition, examined non-discriminatory promotion of young Roma in the Local Youth Councils (November 2016);
- Round table entitled "Tolerance and multiculturalism" organized in context of International Tolerance Day (November 15, 2016);

- Conference on Protection of National Minorities — 15 years for adoption of Law on rights of persons belonging to national minorities and legal status of their organizations (December 22, 2016);
- Round Table "Needs of elderly Roma who overcome Holocaust. Holocaust Remembrance and Successful Experience in Supporting Survivors" (December 2016);
- International seminars in partnership with European Center for Minority Issues under Eastern Partnership Program "National Minorities and Ethno-Political Issues. Belarus-Moldova-Ukraine" (April 2016);
- Dialogue platform in collaboration with Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights and Roma civil society and international community of Republic of Moldova (27 May 2016);
- Joint meeting with representatives of civil society, leaders of ethno-cultural organizations accredited to Office with UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Ms Rita Izsak-Nadiayne (20 June 2016), etc.

107. Realization of Roma communities right to participate in public life, decision making and solving their problems, process of democratization in society has a positive impact on Roma population on opportunities representing interests of Roma. Roma community associations, national and local level and Roma social-political movement play an important role to promoting interests of Roma citizens. For first time in R. Moldova, with UN Program "Women in politics" effort, 2 Roma women were elected as local councilors (in Chetrosu village and Râşcani), 7 Roma women being registered on electoral lists of political parties as independent candidates in local elections.

108. Action Plan for Supporting Roma Population 2016-2020 is implemented at CPA level.

109. See: Annex Table Q 5 11 27 Public spending (5 — education, health care, social protection, housing and services; 11 — community mediators' services); 27 — social housing from the state budget); *Source*: Ministry of Finance.

110. For implementing Action Plan of Supporting Roma Population of Republic of Moldova, 2011-2015, approved by Government Decision No. 494 of July 8, 2011, Ministry of Health elaborated Branch Action Plan for supporting Roma population, 2012-2015, approved by order No. 1381 of 28.12.2012 on Implementation of Government Decision No. 56 of 31.01.2012.

111. Ministry of Health assesses and monitors implementation of Action Plan in each administrative territory, based on questionnaires and well defined indicators, as: rate of vaccination among children and adults of Roma origin, rate of prophylactic control, etc., focusing on following priorities:

- Increase access and addressability of Roma people to medical services, including emergency services.
- Improve quality of medical services, especially for mothers, future mothers and children, and strengthen capabilities of medical staff.
- Work on specific approaches with young people (educate healthy culture among young people).

112. Annually, about 800 to 900 trips are conducted. Mobile teams include specialists of different specialties, determined by real needs in territory (pediatrician, obstetrician-gynecologist, cardiologist, oculist, otorhinolaryngologist, neurologist, etc.). By order of MH, No. 327 of April 11, 2014, displacement of specialized medical teams in rural localities with limited access to medical services, have been organized, to carry out medical examination of population, ambulatory and hospital treatment recommendations at territorial/republican level.

113. Trips were carried out in 145 localities, involving 120 specialists from republican institutions (doctors: pediatrician, obstetrician-gynecologist, dermatologist, oncologist, mammologist, neurologist, gastrologist, ftizipneumologist, psychiatrist, urologist,

endocrinologist, hepatologist, ophthalmologist, cardiologist, rheumatologist, ORL, infectious disease, etc.).

114. Ministry of Internal Affairs in support of Roma population and implementation of National Action Plan for Roma for 2011-2015, as well as Action Plan of Republic of Moldova for 2016-2020, and National Program for Gender Equality for 2010-2015 and Action Plan for Implementation of Final Observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, adopted in Geneva on 20 May 2011, adopted institutional plans for each policy document and basic Operational Plans of the organisation.

115. Equal rights of men and women (art. 3)

Question 12

116. See: Annex Table_Q12_Reprez_Women_Statistics_Moldova.

117. Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF) took concrete, effective steps, inclusively in framework of National Program for Gender Equality 2010-2015, to:

- Ensure equal treatment of women and men on labor market, including equal pay for equal value work in all sectors;
- Temporary introduction of special measures to promote representation of women in decision-making positions, paying attention to comment No. 16 (2005) on equal right of women and men to enjoy all economic, social and cultural rights;
- Introduction of special measures to promote representation of women in decision-making positions;
- Improve legislation on gender equality and electoral law for implementing quota system for equalizing representation of women and men in public life, in particular, in responsible positions of elected representatives at local and national level.

118. Promoting and adopting Law No. 71 of 14.04.2016 on amendment of legislative acts and amendments to 15 legislative acts:

- Law No. 64-XII of 31.05.1990 on Government included — minimum representation of 40% of both sexes — promote active participation of women in decision-making process and public representation structures, strengthening Government role of promoter and coordinator of gender-sensitive policies and respect for equality principle between women and men in staff policy;
- Establishing 40% share of both sexes in Electoral Code in candidates' lists for parliamentary and local elections. If electoral competitor does not present lists of candidates according to 40% quota, registration of respective list by electoral body is refused;
- Inclusion paternity leave of 14 days in Labor Code. Paternal leave is granted on basis of a written request within first 56 days of child's birth. During paternity leave, employee benefits from a paternal allowance which cannot be less than average salary for period in question and is paid out from social security fund;
- Inclusion in Law No. 1227-XIII of 27.06.1997 on advertising, defining inadequate advertising criteria and definition of sexist advertising, obliging periodical publications and press agencies to use non-sexist language and to present images of women and men through equal rights in spheres of public and private life;
- Consolidation of Institutional Mechanism at central and local level: a) central level: creation within ministries of coordinating groups in field of gender, aiming to ensure comprehensive approach to gender equality in policies and programs in all fields; b) at local level, amending Law No. 436-XVI of 28 December 2006 on local public administration as to ensure implementation, monitoring and coordination of policies. Major responsibility for implementing gender equality policies lies with decision makers, namely district chairs and mayors.

119. Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family with development partners (UN Women and UNFPA) elaborated draft Gender Equality Strategy of Republic of Moldova for years 2017-2021 and Action Plan on its implementation. New Strategy — is effective tool to ensure coordination and mobilization of governmental, civil society and development partners' efforts to address gender perspectives in all policies and areas and demonstrate commitment on promoting and assuring gender equality agenda. Strategy aim is to empower women and de facto achieve equality between women and men in Moldova. Main strategy objectives are:

- Ensure a comprehensive approach to gender equality;
- Strengthen institutional mechanism for ensuring equality between women and men;
- Combating stereotypes in society and promoting non-violent communication;
- Ensure gender equality in security and defense sectors;
- Integrating gender-sensitive budgeting into budget planning process;
- Carry out information campaigns by creating and broadcasting video, radio and television broadcasts that reflect importance of gender equality for development and welfare of society.

120. Statistical data on representation of women in decision-making positions and in public life. National Bureau of Statistics has aggregated data at national level, provided by relevant authorities: Parliament, Government of Republic of Moldova, Central Electoral Commission, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Superior Council of Magistrates, etc. Data on representation of women in these disaggregated positions according to other criteria such as ethnicity and disability are not available.

III. Issues relating to specific provisions of the Covenant (arts. 6-15)

Right to work (art. 6)

Question 13

121. National Employment Agency (NEA), subordinated to MLSPF, is a public institution providing free services on labour market to persons searching a job, inclusively, unemployed, who address territorial agencies (TEA). Agency implements informs on labour market situation, vacancies, work conditions, provides occupational guidance and stimulation services, professional counselling, social protection to unemployed — for integration youth, women, disabled, Roma etc. in the field of work, under current legislation (art. 8, Law nr. 102-XV of 13.03.2003 on labour force occupation and social protection of unemployed), on non-discriminatory basis, regardless their race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, religion, sex, opinion, political view, wealth or social origin. Not all persons searching a job address employment agencies. Legislation does not oblige them to address or register at EA. They may find a job themselves.

122. To facilitate integration/professional reintegration on labor market, unemployed are trained in public works and benefit from facilities provided by legislation (training payment, transport, host, hostel, scholarship, unemployment benefit or integration allowance, stimulative indemnity trained in public works). Unemployed disabled are registered on basis of work recommendations included in Individual Rehabilitation and Social Inclusion Program attached to disability certificate (resulting changes introduced in 2011 in Employment and Social Protection Act No. 102 of March 13, 2003).

123. NEA manages automated labor market information system and collects data on persons who address for EA services according to criteria: age, gender, type of disability, studies, professional experience, etc.

124. Table below shows dynamics of main indicators working with unemployed (young people, women, people with disabilities and Roma) who addressed and registered as unemployed at EAs, as well as non-registered unemployed — 2010-2016.

Table 7
Unemployment indicators, 2010-2016

Indicators	*2010*	*2011*	*2012*	*2013*	*2014*	*2015*	*2016*
Total registered unemployed/Nr.	**81 522**	**67 254**	**51 378**	**43 463**	**42 166**	**50 615**	**50 061**
Unemployed persons employed (share from total number of registered unemployed)	14 681 (18%)	13 548 (20.1%)	15 561 (30.3%)	16 722 (38.5%)	16 366 (38.8%)	16 782 (33.2%)	17 654 (35.3%)
Persons without unemployed status addressed at EAs	18 570	24 184	25 396	29 801	24 926	26 885	27 875
Women registered unemployed (share of total number of registered unemployed)	40 962 (50.2%)	33 577 (49.9%)	26 782 (52.1%)	23 206 (53.4%)	21 247 (50.4%)	24 503 (48.4%)	23 134 (46.2%)
Women employed (share from total unemployed women)	8 008 (19.5%)	7 741 (23.1%)	8 557 (32%)	9 482 (40.9%)	8 772 (41.3%)	8 769 (35.8%)	8 882 (38.4%)
Youth 16-24 registered unemployed (share of total number of registered unemployed)	17 081 (21%)	14 061 (20.9%)	10 702 (20.8%)	9 381 (21.8%)	8 329 (19.8%)	9 188 (18.2%)	8 402 (16.8%)
Youth 16-24 employed (share of total number unemployed youth)	3 819 (22.4%)	3 349 (23.8%)	3 612 (33.8%)	4 131 (44.0%)	3 920 (47.1%)	3 620 (39.4%)	3 578 (42.6%)
Persons with disabilities registered unemployed (share of total registered unemployed)	550 (0.7%)	493 (0.7%)	532 (1.0%)	615 (1.4%)	625 (1.5%)	877 (1.7%)	773 (1.5%)
Persons with disabilities employed (share from total number registered unemployed disabled persons)	71 (12.9%)	87 (17.6%)	103 (19.4%)	170 (27.6%)	220 (35.2%)	300 (34.4%)	342 (44.2%)
Roma registered unemployed (share of total registered unemployed)	700 (0.9%)	775 (1.2%)	740 (1.4%)	657 (1.5%)	720 (1.7%)	1 138 (2.2%)	814 (1.6%)
Roma employed (share from total registered Roma unemployed)	22 (3.1%)	42 (5.7%)	64 (8.6%)	70 (11.2%)	90 (12.5%)	70 (6.1%)	77 (9.5%)

Question 14

125. Draft Government Decision on National Employment Strategy — 2017-2021, was approved December 28, 2016. (*Source*: MLSPF)

- See also: Question 25 — the Project "Decent Work for Young People".

126. Inclusion of persons with disabilities in the workplace — are applied provisions art. 34 Law on Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, No. 60 of 30.03.2012 and Law on Employment and Social Protection of Persons seeking Employment, No. 102-XV of 13.03.2003.

127. Persons with disabilities are provided work according their professional training and work capacity, certified by disability qualification certificate and according to recommendations for individual rehabilitation and social inclusion program issued by National Council for Determination Disability and Labor Capacity, or its territorial structures.

128. Statistical data — about 23% of total number of people with disabilities (able to work) are employed officially, are contributors to Social Insurance Budget and Health Insurance Budget, paying income taxes.

129. Persons with disabilities are employed as follows:

- At enterprises, institutions and organizations under normal conditions;
- At home;
- At specialized enterprises.

130. Persons with disabilities searching jobs, according to conclusion of National Council for Determination of Disability and Labor Capacity, are recommended to be employed, benefit from active measures of stimulation in employment, provided by NEA and territorial structures, including receiving: information, professional consultation, work mediation, guidance and training (Law on Employment and Social Protection of Persons seeking Employment, No. 102-XV of 13.03.2003). To assist and provide necessary support for people with disabilities for accessing above mentioned measures, in 2012 and 2013 there were additionally employed 86 persons (2 persons from each Territorial Employment Agency, as well as Employment Agency), responsible for provision of employment and unemployment protection services for people with disabilities and other categories of citizens from vulnerable groups.

131. Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family elaborated a new draft law on employment. It establishes legal framework for promotion of employment and social protection, in case of unemployment and aims at increasing employment levels, including people with disabilities. Draft law includes measures for encouraging employers and unemployed among people with disabilities, to be included in the labor market.

Question 15

132. Draft Government Decision on National Employment Occupational Strategy — 2017-2021, approved December 28, 2016, aimed to improve occupational indicators, reduce unemployment and improve employability on labor market, inclusively, put an end to workforce leaving the country, highly educated and trained people, incl. young people.

133. Indicators — halt exodus phenomenon; reduce vulnerability, active involvement of general public and young people on labour market, raise awareness, inform general public, promote rights of employees and employers, working conditions, protection and assistance services and legal jobs in the country and abroad.

134. In 2016, National Employment Agency (NEA) carried out activities, as follows: informative seminars, information campaigns, job fairs, including on-Line, etc.

- 03-7.02.2016 — traditional Job Fair, 15th edition of National Exhibition "Made in Moldova". More than 2.000 people participated. 30 economic agents of different national economy branches offered 500 job vacancies, mainly, manufacturing industry. 550 people directly negotiated job offers with employers, 130 candidates, were selected for job interview.
- 27-28.05.2016-VIth edition — Trade Professions Forum, a Job Fair for Youth. 35 economic agents offered — 1,300 job vacancies. Event attended by 1,500 people, searching jobs. Employers offered information on vacancies to 700 people, been selected — 300 candidates for employment interview.
- NEA organized 3 online job fairs, attended by 303 employers, 6800 jobs available. Online fair platform (www.e-angajare.md) was visited by approximately 3600

people from over 70 countries. In total, 182 people applied CVs for direct online fair platform jobs.

135. Territorial employment agencies in 2016:

- Awarded 28,053 unemployed job mediation services, including job mediation. 17,656 unemployed were placed in workforce.
- Organized 73 job fairs, attended 658 employers, 9,800 vacancies available. Events attracted about 12,100 people looking for work, were employed about 1,800 people.

136. An important role in ensuring reduction of population vulnerability plays ODIMM, within National Youth Economic Empowerment Program, provided consultations to 200 young entrepreneurs, potential entrepreneurs or people who recently registered own business.

137. In 2016, training sessions for 176 young people were organized in 5 localities: Ştefan Vodă, Unghemi, Ceadîr-Lunga, Singerei and Chisinau.

138. In PARE 1 + 1, in 2016, ODIMM organized 10 entrepreneurial training sessions, attended by 246 people.

Right to just and favourable conditions of work (art. 7)

Question 16

Source: State Labour Inspectorate

139. To implement provisions minimizing practices of paying salaries "in envelope" and undeclared work, foreseen by Action Plan, were organised mixed territorial working groups with participation of representatives of territorial structures of Prosecutor's Office, Ministry Internal Affairs, Main State Tax Inspectorate, CCI CC, approved by Government Decision No. 477 of 28.06.2011. Labor inspectors made control visits to units and employers — individuals, detecting people illegally employed.

Table 8
Illegal employment, 2011-2016

Year	*No. of economic units and physical persons, employed illegally*	*No. of workers, working illegally, including*			*No of minutes on concluded contraventions*	*No. of persons reinstalled in their rights, legalizing labour relations with employers*
		Total	*Women*	*Minors*		
2011	200 units and 32 individuals. 70 active units in the field of agriculture and forestry, 549 persons — admitted to non-legal work, 50 Commerce units — 80 persons, 50 Commerce units — 80 persons, 35 units — manufacturing — 168 persons, 34 units — other collective, social and personal activities and services — 154 persons, 20 units — construction branch — 124 persons, 15 transport units — 55 persons, 8 units — other activity fields — 14 persons	1 144	416	77	177	332
2012	249 units and 45 individuals. 64 active units — agriculture and forestry — 292 persons — admitted to non-legal work, 45 units — construction branch — 264 persons, 101 Commerce units — 175 people, 34 units in manufacturing — 134 persons, 36 units — other collective, social and personal service activities	989	405	52	255	343

Year	No. of economic units and physical persons employed illegally	No. of workers working illegally, including			No. of minutes on concluded contraventions	No. of persons reinstalled in their rights, legalizing labour relations with employers
		Total	Women	Minors		
	— 92 persons, 10 units — transport branch — 25 persons, 3 units — hotel business — 4 persons, 1 unit — extractive industry — 3 people					
2013	124 units and 26 individual employers, 29 active units — agriculture and forestry, 69 persons admitted to non-legal employment, 19 manufacturing units — 39 persons, 12 units — construction branch — 29 persons, 20 units — other collective, social and personal service activities — 28 persons, 7 units — hotel business — 21 persons, 9 units — transport branch — 13 persons	292	136	8	127	147
2014	94 units and 31 individual employers, 35 active units — agriculture, forestry and fish farming — 116 persons — admitted to non-legal work, 33 trade units — 50 people, 24 units — service activities — 40 persons, 10 units — construction branch — 14 persons, 9 manufacturing units — 12 persons, 8 units — transport branch — 14 persons, 6 units — hotel and restaurant activity — 10 persons	256	101	13	114	136
2015	272 units and 87 individual employers 127 employers — commerce, 194 persons admitted to non-legal work, 79 employers — agriculture and forestry — 186 persons, 49 employers — construction branch — 213 persons, 47 employers — other services — 80 persons, 29 employers — processing industry — 64 persons, 10 hotel and restaurant employers — 24 people, 9 employers — transport branch — 38 persons, 4 private households as employer of household staff — 11 persons, 3 employers — cultural and recreational activities — 6 persons, 2 employers — water distribution — 2 persons)	818	260	31	334	216
2016	(23 active employers — field of commerce, 30 persons admitted to non-legal employment, 15 employers — agriculture and forestry — 37 persons, 15 employers — construction branch — 33 persons, 14 employers — other service activities — 29 persons, 2 employers — manufacturing — 2 persons, 1 employer — transport branch — 1 person)	132	39	15	68	25

140. Labor inspectors provide methodological and advisory support to more than 1000 citizens, yearly. Under Article 33, paragraph 1 of Labor Code, economic units from country register collective labor agreements at territorial labor inspections and submit for registration of staff members, according art. 10 (2) c) of Labor Code.

141. To raise awareness on efficiently applying Labor Code, Safety and health at work, have been carried out actions to inform, consult on correct and effective application of legislation, ensure transparency of activity of inspections, informing the population. Central and local mass media were involved, articles, television and radio programs were published. Information and awareness-raising measures have been implemented in field of labor relations, safety and health at work and seminars held. Employees of State Labor Inspectorate participated in sessions, round tables organized by decision makers in territory and territorial subdivisions of trade unions. Labor inspectors organized seminars to inform youth labor legislation, safety and health at work. Meetings — organized with colleges, graduates of pre-university institutions, to inform on labour legislation. Labor inspectors

contributed at Youth Job Fair held within Job/Professions Forum, providing visitors with information and consultations on labor law and labor relations.

Question 17

Source: Ministry of Economy

142. Guaranteed minimum wage in the real sector is reviewed annually in line with annual growth in consumer price index and increase rate in labor productivity at national level. Since May 1, 2016, minimum guaranteed salary in real sector was set at 2100 lei per month, increasing by 10.5% compared to the previous rate; Statistical data shows that employment is a factor reducing risk of poverty. A job outside agricultural sector decreases likelihood of being poor, poverty rate for employed (outside agricultural sector) — is around 4.7%.

143. A very different situation is observed in agricultural sector. Poverty rate for people employed in this sector is 27.1%, being about 6 times higher than poverty rate among employed population in other sectors. Employment in agriculture does not provide decent income, with lowest level of pay to agricultural workers.

144. Another issue highlighted last 3 years is tendency to increase poverty rate among population with higher education. Risk of poverty drops substantially with increase in education — in 2015 about 3% of families, with higher education, were below poverty line, compared with 0.7% in 2013. These developments are explained by low salaries paid in some of economy, especially in budgetary sector. Minimum wage in Republic of Moldova is 1000 lei (45 euro), which is below poverty threshold and minimum subsistence level.

145. According to provisions of Government Decision No. 656 of 27.05.2016, starting 1 June 2016, persons employed in occupation professions also benefit from employment benefits. Rules set out in law are fully implemented. Implementation of new payroll system in specific functions of national defense, state security and public order is underway. By Order of the Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Family No. 22 of February 9, 2017 was created a working group on reforming wage system of budgetary sector. Objectives are set in Government Action Plan on implementation of new remuneration system for persons with specific functions of national defense, state security and public order.

Question 18

Source: Ministry of Economy

146. In 2016 Moldovan Government started a fundamental reform in inspections area aiming at addressing highly burdensome, frequent and abusive interventions in activities of business companies by multiple number of inspection bodies. Aim of reform is to streamline inspection procedures, shift to risk-based inspections and eliminate duplications and overlaps in competences of multiple inspection authorities. New law provides for separation of inspection realms by product/groups of products produced by an economic agent and by risk types associated with certain production processes. Institutional dimension of reform implies removal of inspection functions from 33 official controlling bodies (e.g. Bodies listed in law nr. 131 on inspections) and 25 so called unofficial controlling bodies (e.g. bodies not included in law nr. 131 on inspections, however exercising inspection functions). Outcome and one of major pillars of reform is consolidation of inspection functions within only 13 inspectorates and 5 regulators, while removing inspection functions from any other agency, whether it is a result of consolidation or merger, split, restructuring or liquidation of such agencies.

147. Concerning issue of future institutional set up: Current set up of labor inspectorate derives from goal to reach full implementation of principle "one risk-one agency", where same production process as source of risk to workers safety and product safety is covered simultaneously, during one inspection check. This serves the goal, each business company shall not be checked for same type of activity and production processes by different inspectorates, unless we follow this principle, there will be again multiple overlaps in

controls in future again. In order to exclude any further potential duplications, function of occupational safety inspection was transferred from labor inspectorate to sectorial inspection bodies such as: food safety agency, consumer protection and market surveillance agency, transport administrations, environment protection agency, public health agency, technical supervision inspectorate, energy and communications sectorial regulators. Labor inspectors will be included as integral part of personnel of sectorial inspectorates, responsible for checking occupational safety of workers during inspection visits carried out by relevant sectorial inspectorate, whether planned, follow up visit, or unplanned inspections. Future institutional set up will ensure that every sectorial inspection is combined with occupational safety check and labor inspectors are part of inspectors' team visiting business company.

148. In terms of reporting on accidents at workplace, transparency will be assured with access to informational database — which will be electronic Inspection Registry, currently monitored by State Chancellery of Moldova. All inspectorates will be connected to this Inspection Registry, collecting inspection acts and related documents, identifying minor or severe violations of labor legislation, including prescriptions given to business companies, terms for taking corrective measures, and will be recorded in the Inspection Registry, which means that whole database will be easily and simultaneously accessible by Labour Inspectorate. In practical terms, no impediments shall exist, in accessing data, or receiving information, or exchange information between Labor Inspectorate and labor inspectors placed in sectorial inspectorates. At present, electronic Inspection Registry is in process of developing and improving in 12 months period upon enactment framework law on Inspections for this particular activity.

149. With development partners' support, electronic platform e-Learning is created, training labor inspectors, to place and update electronic courses, presentations, learning materials, guidelines, follow legislative amendments and allow Labor Inspectorate/labor inspectors from sectorial bodies get up-to-date information and methodological guidance, provide sufficient level of control. It has paramount importance and key to success of whole reform, as without adequately trained inspectors will not be able to achieve success and real breakthrough. By finalization of legislative and institutional pillars of the inspection reform during 2017, inspectorates shall be formed and competencies defined according to legal framework, shall commit to institutional consolidation of inspectorates. Based on intensive and comprehensive capacity building campaigns, shifting to system of risk-based inspections, will be achieved and exercised.

150. Case of planned controls: at present there is clear awareness on existing contradiction between general rules for initiating inspection, stated in framework law and provisions of Art. 12 of Convention nr. 81. Ministry of Economy admitted this fact and repeatedly stated that this inconsistency will be removed as soon as legislative package deriving from requirements of framework law will be adopted by Parliament of Republic of Moldova, as second phase of this reform. Amendments will focus not only on special law, but if necessary, amend existing framework law in order to eliminate any contradiction in this particular area with Convention nr. 81, on issue of prior notification. Specifically, exemptions will be made in respect to obligation of prior notification for labor inspections, so that labor inspectors will not be obliged to notify about future inspection 5 days prior to visit. We like clarity, reforms of inspection system will have several major phases and steps. First step — will involve adoption of amendments to framework law, next steps will consist of reforming institutional set up and developing specific rules and procedures of risk-based inspections for each domain, as regulated in schedule of reforms for implementing framework law in art. 27, Law nr. 230 from 23.09.2016.

151. *It is important that there are no contradictions with Art. 16 of Convention nr. 81*, as implied and interpreted by trade unions in their correspondence. Existing framework law on state inspections does not expressly or implicitly limit number of inspections, which can be carried out in respect of an economic agent. General rule (Art. 14 from Law nr. 131/2012) states that inspection body must plan one inspection visit per year, unless applied risk based methodology requires a higher frequency, while for non-planned inspections there is no limit at all. In addition, if inspector finds inconsistencies during visit, he is entitled to issue an obligatory prescription and set clear deadlines for bringing into compliance; any follow

up check in framework of this process will not be considered as a separate control, rather a due follow up visit. However, what Law nr. 131 requires is previous risk analysis and risk evaluation process to be carried out in a due manner by inspection bodies — which is the core of risk-based inspections system and shall apply to every inspectorate acting in Moldova.

152. On issue carrying out inspection procedures in accordance with Convention nr. 81, prior to introducing amendments to framework law, according to provisions Law nr. 131 from 2012 on state inspection of business activity, there is no obligation of prior notification in case of non-planned controls. Additionally, in certain cases, inspectors have ability to enter premises without need of revealing themselves at beginning of inspection (in cases where delegation states expressly this right and inspection method requires it).

153. Based on above mentioned, Ministry of Economy, in charge of undertaking fundamental inspection reform, which will bring real change and breakthrough in mentality and practices of old-fashioned inspections via introducing risk-based inspections, is seeking for official position of International Labor Organization on issue of legitimacy and compliance of proposed legislative measures and institutional set up of future inspectorates opposite requirements of international conventions in area of labor rights.

Source: State Labor Inspectorate

154. Law No 140-XV of 10 May 2001 on State Labor Inspectorate and Law No. 131 of 08 June 2012 on state control over entrepreneurial activity — are reviewed, a draft Law is in process of being endorsed, designed to adjust to provisions of International Labor Organization Conventions on Labor inspection in industry and commerce (C.81); C.129 on labor inspection in agriculture, included also in National Action Plan for implementation of Association Agreement Republic of Moldova-European Union 2017-2019, under Chapter 13 Trade and Sustainable Development, Article 365 Multilateral Standards and Multilateral Agreements in Field of Work related to labor inspection, aiming at preserving integrated State Labor Inspectorate (control duties in field of occupational safety and health and labor relations).

155. Government approved program of continuous training of labor inspectors in accordance with Annual Activity Program of State Labor Inspectorate and carried out diverse educational measures.

- Regional seminars are held annually on preventing and combating corruption with participation of representatives of National Anticorruption Center.
- Early workplace inspectors are trained under a "Safety and Health at Work" course, organized and carried out with support of State Enterprise "Training Center for Labor Relations".
- 27-28.04.2011, Labor Inspectors participated in training seminar "National consultations on improving provision of public services for empowering women and girls" for implementation of UN-Women project in Moldova.
- 26-27.05.2011, Labor Inspectorate participated in International Seminar "Experiences and Perspectives for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for Labor Exploitation in Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus", organized by International Center for Protection of Women's Rights "La Strada Ukraine", Kiev.
- 31.05.-1.06.2011, at initiative of Attaché of Austria Embassy to Republic of Moldova and support of Federal Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection of Austria, first bilateral expert seminar in Moldova and Austria was organized on Safety and health at work and social dialogue, attended by 20 labor inspectors.
- 06-10.06.2011, training courses for labor inspectors — carried out ILO on decent work program, involving 22 labor inspectors.
- 29-30.05.2011, with financial support of Government of Sweden, Training Workshop on "Gender Equality, Labor Market Access and Conditions at Work" was organized by IOM, 25 inspectors.

- 12-16.09.2011, training course "Assessing and managing risk factors at work", organized by ILO, 20 labor inspectors took part.
- 26-30.09.2011, ILO training course "Labor Inspection in Agriculture" organized in Budapest, within launch of "National Campaign on Control of Compliance with Legal and Normative Acts on use of machinery and mechanisms, use mineral fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture and manufacturing" moderated by IOM expert, 20 inspectors trained.
- 24-26.10.2011, 4 Labor Inspectorates participated in European Health and Safety Week, organized by Labor Inspectorate Galati, Romania, coordinated by Bilbao-based European Agency, meeting labor inspectors, appointed workers, heads of internal and external prevention and protection services from 10 counties in Romania and Bucharest and representatives of trade unions and employers' organizations.
- Inspectors of Division Labor Inspectorate participated in 5th "Training Workers' Workshop, implementing provisions of Moldova-EU Association Agreement and Public Authorities Capacity Building of Rep. Moldova. Towards European Integration, organized by UNDP Moldova, financed by Sweden International Development Agency.
- 17-22.11.2011, Chief Inspectors trained in workshops and Regional Training Seminars "Safety and Health at Work", "Mandate, Powers and Powers of Territorial Commission for Collective Bargaining and Consultation" organized by National Confederation of Employers.
- 18.11.2011, within Labor Inspection, training seminar of Labor Inspection officers on "Prevention and Combating Corruption Activities" — organized with support of CEECC staff.
- 29-30.11.2011, Skopje, Macedonia-BOM, Technical workshop "Inspection Campaigns on Safety and Health at Work and Undeclared Work", with representatives of Labor Inspectorates and social partners from Ukraine, Macedonia, Albania, Moldova and international experts from France, Belgium and Portugal.
- 2011-2013, based on civil servants' recycling program, Public Administration Academy and State Chancellery, organized training courses "Adaptation and integration into public function", "Strategic Management and Planning", "Management and Development of Programs and Projects", "New Public Management", "Performance Management", "Evaluation and Monitoring Techniques" — 20 senior civil servants and executives from Labor Inspection were trained.
- In 2014, Labor Inspectorate in collaboration with ILO organized two-stage training seminars for labor trainers on "Application of Labor Relations and International Standards in Labor Relations", for 53 civil servants.
- Seminar "Good Practice for Implementation of Legislative and Normative Acts on Wages" — Wage Policy Directorate of the Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family organized for training 24 labor inspectors.
- Workshops carried out on training labor inspectors "Applying the Methodology of state control planning on entrepreneurial activity based on risk criteria analysis" and monitoring implementation of provisions of Minimum Safety and Health Requirements.
- State Labor Inspectorate Officials participated in exchange of experience on occupational safety and health, organized by Focal Point of European Agency for Safety and Health at Work of Romania, presenting European Campaign Framework 2014-2015 "Stress Management for Healthier Jobs", "Risk Assessment and Goal Setting Legislation".
- State Labor Inspectorate representative took part in first edition of Academy on Formalization of Informal Economy "Concepts, Policies and Strategies, organized by ILO and International Training Center, on recent approaches promoting effective transition from informal to formal economy, for workers and economic units.

156. Logistical assistance of labor inspectors was a priority targeted in Strategic Development Program of the Labor Inspectorate for 2013-2014.

157. Automated Information System of State Labor Inspectorate was developed by UN Women Program on Empowerment of women and men, with support of foreign donors. Program is integrated within State Register of Controls.

158. For improving quality of inspection activities and increase labor inspectors efficiency, financial means were allocated for procurement and endowment of labor inspectors with automatic data processing equipment and transport means on carrying out state controls in operative regime.

- March 2015 — a seminar organized, on raising awareness of Labor Inspectorate employees on human trafficking phenomena on labor exploitation and forced labor, in cooperation with Center for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.
- June 2015 — Council for Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Gender Equality trained labor inspectors on preventing and combating phenomenon of discrimination in society.
- September 2015 — ILO Sub-Regional Office in Budapest, and ILO in Romania, organized training on institutional capacity building "Social security contributions in context of informal economy" for employees of State Labor Inspectorate.
- September 2015 — Three representatives of State Labor Inspectorate participated in Conference "Safety and Health at Work — European Practices", supported by European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, in Bilbao, Spain.
- October-November 2015, regional training seminars for labor inspectors on: "Preventing Workplace Illegalities. Studying Best Practices for Compliance with Labor Law Provisions within the Unit. Assess occupational risks in construction, transport and agriculture".
- December 2015 — State Labor Inspectorate collaborators participated in tripartite workshop, organized by ILO on adjusting Law No. 140 of 10.05.2001 on State Labor Inspectorate according to ILO Convention No 81/ Labor Inspection in Industry and Commerce.
- State Labor Inspectorate collaborator took part in Academy on Formalisation of Informal Economy: Concepts, Policies and Strategies, organized ILO and International Training Center, promoting transition from informal to formal economy/for workers and economic units.
- State Labor Inspectorate representative participated in Montenegro Conference, under aegis of ILO on formalizing informal economy.

Question 19

Source: National Employment Agency (NEA)

159. Emigration of Moldovan citizens abroad is regulated by Law 180/2008 on labor migration. Legal employment abroad is done three ways: individually, through private employment agencies and on basis of bilateral intergovernmental agreements. It established legality to citizens of Republic of Moldova by registration of individual labor contracts at NEA. This mechanism provides measures to protect rights of Moldovan workers abroad.

160. Republic of Moldova ratified ILO Convention No. 181 on private employment agencies. Implementation of provisions of above-mentioned Convention, provisions of Law 102/2003 on employment and social protection of job-seekers, and Law 180/2008 on labor migration ensure protection to Moldovan citizens in process of emigration, including via providers of job placement services abroad.

161. An element of protection of emigrant citizens, is process of licensing providers of employment services abroad. Applicant economic agents, coordinate with NEA cooperation agreements with foreign intermediaries and/or by foreign employers and projects of individual labor contracts so that rights and obligations of parties comply with legal

provisions of employment abroad as well as protection of rights of emigrant citizens. In licensing process, this right will be granted only to economic agents, who have taken into account all aspects of legality, including issue of intervention in cases of litigation.

Source: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family

162. Memorandum providing qualitative services for reintegration of returnees into society was signed between Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, German Cooperation Agency and Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency. Memorandum summarizes main activities and involvement of parties in implementation of actions during years 2015-2017, within Migration and Local Development Project implementation, aiming at involving migrants in sustainable local development, in partnership with Government of Republic of Moldova, Local NGOs, private sector, population, including migrants from target communities. Main Migration and Local Development Project objective — assist communities affected by migration to benefit from local services and provide income-generating opportunities including re-employment and support for business development for returnees.

163. As result, Concept of Interinstitutional Referral Mechanism for Integration of Migrants Returning Abroad (MIR) has been developed. Subsequently, Session Presentations MIR mechanisms were organized within 10 raions/municipalities in Moldova. During sessions participants discussed MIR concept, experiences of specialists in assisting migrants returning from abroad, how to identify needs of returning migrants, their reference and solving problems they are facing. After pilot phase, mechanisms will be institutionalized through Government Decision or Collaborative Memoranda at central and local levels to ensure effective collaboration for reintegration of returning migrants.

Combatting THB

164. Measures taken to protect rights of Moldovan migrant workers and reduce vulnerability of individuals for preventing trafficking in human beings, active involvement in awareness raising, information campaigns, on legal employment, access services of protection and assistance inside country and abroad. Major impact activity had National Campaign "Combating Trafficking Week" — marking — European Day — Oct. 18, bringing together entire anti-trafficking community. In 2016 campaign, central and local public authorities in partnership with NGOs and international organizations, organised over 2000 informing activities and preventing trafficking in human beings, distributed around 29395 informative materials to country localities.

165. On October 6, 2016, IdH Moldova, within implementation of project "Child Protection in the context of Parental Migration", carried out Campaign "Families without Land", launched with financial support of Netherlands Embassy within Human Rights Program. Campaign provided practical recommendations on maintaining and developing healthy and "faraway" relationship between parents and children, before and after leaving their parents abroad.

166. In January 2016, Ministry of Health launched National Information and Communication Campaign on strengthening donation and transplantation with the slogan "We got an organ and that saved my life!" Purpose of Campaign was to inform and sensitize both population and medical institutions about organ donation and transplantation.

167. In 2016, attention was paid to capacity building of specialists in the field. A total of 1134 specialists were trained on basis of various themes on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings and related fields. Emphasis was put on developing and strengthening capacities of representatives of Territorial Commissions for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings with view to proper implementation of national anti-trafficking policies at local level.

168. During 2016, following activities took place:

- 04-07.04.2016, anti-trafficking workshop, Târgu-Mureș, Romania, participated delegation of Republic of Moldova, consisting of CI Presidents from 7 administrative-territorial units (Edineț, Briceni, Causeni, Cantemir, Cimislia, Falesti and Soldanesti), SP, CAP, CCTP and IOM Mission in Moldova. Event was

organized on initiative of SP with financial support of ICMPD Vienna, in partnership with National Anti-Trafficking Agency (ANITP) in Romania within project "Fight against organized crime and organized crime" — Phase 2 (THB II S.2). Workshop was attended by 38 representatives — 8 of law enforcement institutions, 17 of public authorities, 13 of civil society — from different groups to cover subjects of agenda as much as possible. Event was hosted by Prefecture of Mureș County and exchange of views took place with representatives of County Police Inspectorate, Organized Crime Brigade, Territorial Labor Inspectorate, County School Inspectorate, General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection, Organization Save the Children and Mureș Public Health Directorate. Workshop program also included 3 visits to shelters for victims of family violence and trafficking in human beings, children at risk and mother-to-child couples.

- 19.04.2016, SP organized a follow-up meeting with 7 Presidents of CI attending study visit in order to examine and analyse good practices presented by Romanian counterparts, as well as planning short and long-term CI activities duration. Event also discussed challenges for applying best practice in Romania, considerations on improving CI activity, financial resources available locally and maintaining existing services, eventual partnership ideas with Romanian counterparts.

- 20.05-30.06.2016, SP in partnership with OSCE Mission to Moldova organized 6 regional CI sessions to replicate experience gained in Romania. 6 regional workshops organized on exchange of good practices in field of anti-trafficking. In total, 143 participants participated, including: 15 CI presidents, 9 representatives of local NGOs and CSDP, 5 mayors, 114 CI members — co-ordinators of Territorial Multidisciplinary Teams (EMI). There were also 3 workshops on capacity building of LPA specialists and local NGOs to attract resources.

- 3 workshops on capacity building of LPA staff and local NGOs to raise financial resources for development of social services for victims of trafficking in human beings were organized within National Referral System for CI Secretaries with participation of active NGOs API. (19-20, 21-22 July 2016, 2-3 August 2016). As a result, 3 trained NGOs wrote and applied 5 project proposals.

169. Trade union rights (art. 8)

Question 20

Source: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family

170. National Commission for Collective Bargaining and Consultation (Article 8):

171. According art. 5 par. (3) of Law No. 245 — XVI of July 21, 2006, all drafted normative acts in labor and social-economic field must be co-ordinated with National Commission for collective consultations and negotiations, Commission's opinion accompanying projects until adoption.

172. National Commission for Collective Bargaining and Consultation is formed on parity principles from representatives of Government, Employers and Trade Unions — 6 members and 4 alternates proposed by each social partner. Position of President of Commission is exercised by governmental coordinator. Secretariat of Commission is provided by State Chancellery (Government Apparatus).

173. Meetings Commission shall be convened whenever necessary in accordance with work plan approved by Commission itself, but not more than once a month. On issues discussed, Commission issues resolutions, usually adopted by consensus. If no consensus reached, decisions on issues examined shall be adopted by 3/4 of votes of members of Commission present at meeting.

174. Procedure described above is valid both for approving opinions on draft normative acts and for adopting any other decisions within competence of Commission (conclusion of collective agreements at national level, exposition of opinion on appropriateness of ratification of relevant international treaties, etc.).

175. However, collective consultations and negotiations at national level take place not only within National Commission but also within tripartite working groups, which are a common way of working out preparation of decisions that National Commission shall adopt and elimination of divergences between partners. For example, within Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family over last few years several ad hoc working groups have been set up to examine proposals to improve labor legislation from social partners. As result of activities of mentioned groups, several draft laws were drafted for modification and completion of Labor Code, subsequently submitted for approval to National Commission for Collective Bargaining and Negotiation, then to Government.

176. Presentation of projects to National Commission takes place at their endorsement by National Confederation of Employers of Republic of Moldova and National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova. Obligation to coordinate draft normative acts in field of labor and social legislation with trade union and employers' organizations at national level is expressly stipulated by Law on Trade Unions No. 1129-XIV of 7 July 2000 and Law on Employers No. 976-XIV of May 11, 2000.

177. Violation of trade union rights is competence of State Labor Inspectorate and disputed in courts.

178. Right to social security (art. 9)

Question 21

Source: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family

179. First step goal: enable adequate standard of living by increasing pension levels, to reach minimum subsistence level and calculation of social assistance benefits on basis of poverty estimation. Action: Annual indexation of social security benefits and state social benefits, according to legislation.

180. By Law No. 290 of December 16, 2016, amendments were made to Law 156-XIV of 14.10.1998 on public pension system, providing for new way of pension indexation. According to provisions in force, indexation coefficient represents annual growth of consumer price index for previous year, determined by Government, being indexed only pensions part paid from means of state social insurance budget. If annual increase in consumer price index is less than 2%, indexation is not carried out. Following indexation will be applied if cumulative consumer price index since previous indexation is no less than 2%. According Government Decision No. 154 of 15 March 2017 on indexation of social security and state social benefits, the 6.8% indexing coefficient was set on 1 April 2017. Starting 1 April, 2017, new provisions were introduced by Law No. 290 of 16 December 2016 on amending certain legislative acts:

- Valuation of insured income gained after 1 January 1999, carried out in stages (first stage — from April 1, for pensioners retired 2001-2008); following stages — stipulated in Government Decision nr. 165 of 21.03.2017, approving Regulation on pensions calculation methods and manner confirming contribution period for determination of pensions;
- Applying new formula for pension calculation, using valorized average monthly income. New formula will ensure interdependence between paid social contributions and size of future pension;
- Set minimum pension quantum for age limit equivalent to minimum guaranteed monthly income quantum (VLMG) established by law. According to State Budget Law, VLMG indexed on 01.04.2017 constituted 961 lei. Establishing minimum pension according to new formula, same minimum pension quantum will be set for both, national economy as well as for agriculture.

Question 22

Source: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family

181. By Law No. 133 of 13.06.2008 on Social Aid is aimed to support poor families. Family — two or more people living in same house, supported by common budget. May benefit of family rights any adult person not part of a family. Social Aid has two basic components — social aid and cold season aid. Its purpose — ensure minimum guaranteed monthly income to disadvantaged families, according average monthly family income assessment and need for social assistance.

182. In 2016, 77,157 decisions on establishing social aid and cold season aid, from which 36,507 — to families with children; and 78.148 decisions establishing cold season aid, of which, families with children — 5,453.

183. Selection of beneficiaries is based on socio-economic situation of family using welfare criteria and eligibility conditions for people able to work.

184. Social aid/aid for cold season is built on basic elements. To become beneficiary of social assistance/aid for cold season, family must be in following situation:

- Earn monthly income less than minimum state guaranteed monthly income, calculated per family according art. 7, Law 133-XVI, of 13.06.2008;
- Occupational status of adult family members is in conformity with art. 5 of Law on social aid No. 133-XVI, 13.06.2008;
- Score calculated on family welfare indicators and family characteristics (according Annex 5, Regulation on establishing and paying social aid methods, approved by Government Decision 1167, of 16.10.2008) be lower established in Regulation.

185. Only on cumulative fulfilment of these qualification conditions, household will receive social benefits/aid for cold season of the year.

186. Social assistance monthly amount is established as difference between guaranteed minimum monthly family income and total income of family. At same time, following income is not taken into account at calculating total income of family requesting social assistance and cold season aid:

- State financial support granted to pensioners or social allowance beneficiaries, amount not exceeding 1,500 lei;
- 200 lei from declared salary amount for each family employed applicant/beneficiary;
- 200 lei from child care allowance for each allowance paid child;
- Material aid to socially vulnerable persons from local funds or Republican Fund for social support of population;
- For families made of unable to work members (children, persons with disabilities, people reaching age of 75 years (age 62 — for determining right to cold season aid) — excluding agricultural activities income.

187. In 2016, over 90,000 disadvantaged families benefited of at least one social benefit paid in average in the amount of about 804 Moldovan Lei.

Table 9
Number of beneficiaries of social aid 2015-2016

Year	*Number of families benefiting from at least one payment*	*Average benefit, lei*	*Calculated amount*	*VSAS, lei*
2015	85 776	720	About 416 million lei	720 – March 765 – April 900 – October
2016	90 000	Approx. 804	About 660 million lei	900
Aid for the cold period of the year				
2015	182 263	250 (Jan-March) 315 – November	166.1	1 152 – March 1 224 – April 1 440 – October
2016	194 500	315	253 mil lei	1 440

188. Of total number of benefiting families of social aid in 2009-2016, approx. 84% of beneficiaries — from rural environment, over 50% — at least one child, over 55% — at least one person over retirement age, about 43% — at least one person with disabilities.

189. On 02.09.2013, the Automated Information System "Social Assistance" (SIAAS) entered into operation, making work of social workers more efficient, enabling creation of consolidated database of all social assistance beneficiaries. SIAAS exchanges necessary data with SIA State Population Register (RSP), National Social Security Fund/House and National Employment Agency. In future is proposed exchange data as well with: Ministry of Education, Fiscal Inspectorate, Agency for Land Relations and Cadastre, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health/CNAM, National Council for Determination of Disability and Capacity in Labor, Ministry Defense, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Border Police, Republican Experimental Center for Prosthesis, Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, etc.

190. Revising amount of minimum monthly income guaranteed by state budget law; on 22.12.2016, Law No. 304 established that minimum guaranteed monthly income will be annually indexed on April 1, according to annual growth of consumer price index for previous year, established by Government. According to Government Decision No. 153, of 15.03.2017, Government Decision No. 1167 of 16.10.2008, was amended, on minimum guaranteed indexed monthly income, used for calculating social assistance entitlement, from 1 April 2017 amounting 961 lei (before March 31.2017=900 lei). Respectively, minimum guaranteed monthly income level used to assess the right to cold season aid, increased as well (961 * 1.6=1538 lei).

191. Developing social services for people with HIV/AIDS. Goals.

192. Strengthening capacities of HIV/AIDS social protection specialists.

193. Providing support for community mobilization activities to respect rights of HIV/AIDS infected women.

194. Promoting HIV/AIDS prevention measures among HIV-positive women.

195. Regional social centers for assistance of HIV/AIDS infected persons and their family members, are social welfare institutions established at regional level, providing social and medical services, legal and psycho-social services, supporting infected with HIV/AIDS women, men and children and affected families. Purpose of Regional Social Centers — provide specialized integrated services and social support to HIV/AIDS infected persons and family members in difficult situations to improve quality of life, social rehabilitation and (re)integration into society, referral to other services according needs.

196. Activity of Centers is coordinated by territorial social assistance structures, methodologically assisted by Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family. Reported data on work results of Centers are validated by physicians at medical surveillance

territorial offices and antiretroviral treatment in outpatient settings of HIV-infected persons and AIDS patients.

Table 10

Situation of Regional Social Centers for People Infected by HIV/AIDS in 2016

(monthly average)

Name of the Center	Total Monthly Beneficiaries		Statistics in percent of women	Number of cases handled under the case management procedure
	Monthly beneficiaries	Women from the total		
Regional Social Center "Renaștere"	460	242	52.6	327
Regional Social Center "Life with Hope"	739	369	49.9	254
Regional Social Center "Together for Life"	250	130	52	110

197. Starting 1 January 2017, financing of social services is done by special transfers from state budget to local budgets of second level (financial expenditures –3015,9 thousand lei, inclusively, 1 Center in Chisinau municipality — 999,5 thousand lei, 1 Center in Balti mun. — 1,182.0 thousand lei and 1 center in Comrat — 834,4 thousand lei).

198. For implementing provisions of art. 16, para h) of Law nr. 279, of December 16, 2016 on State Budget for 2017, and ensure functionality of regional status social services, was elaborated draft GovDecision on amending GD nr. 1010, of August 26, 2016.

199. Elaborated Draft GD on approval of Framework Regulation on Organization and Functioning of Integrated Social Service for People Dependent on Psychoactive Substances and Patients of Substitution Therapy and Minimum Quality Standards, approved by Government on February 15, 2017.

200. Social services and other social benefits allow people in need enjoy dignified life and decent living conditions, facilitating access to education, work, health services, leisure, other community resources, solving problems generating social exclusion.

Primary social services

201. On 31.12.2014, by Government Decision No. 1034 was approved Framework Regulation of Home Social Care Service and minimum quality standards, aimed at providing quality home care services, improving quality of life of beneficiaries. According to social assistance territorial structures' submitted information, in 2016, were employed 2,085 social workers; 19,760 beneficiaries were provided home social care services, 6,358 — urban beneficiaries;13,402 — elderly people in rural areas.

202. Community Social Assistance Service — a community, social assistance nucleus, providing support to beneficiary in difficult situations. First 6 months of 2016, 1,142 community social workers were employed, inclusively, 939 — women social workers.

203. Supply service in social aid canteens — legal entities providing free services to socially vulnerable persons, operating under Law 81-XV of 28.02.2003 on social assistance canteens. First half of 2016, activated 73 social care canteens, monthly served 5,531 beneficiaries, including 3,241 elderly people.

204. Specialized social services — services involving training specialists to maintain, rehabilitate and develop individual capacities, overcoming difficult situations by

beneficiaries and their families. According data of territorial social assistance structures, second half of 2016, activated 105 social institutions, providing social services for 12,155 beneficiaries, including monthly services: in 18 day care centers for 3,378 beneficiaries, 12 temporary placement centers — for 774 beneficiaries, 38 mixed/multifunctional centers — to 6,798 beneficiaries, 6 social-medical rehabilitation centers — 308 beneficiaries, 31 long-term placement centers — 897 beneficiaries. Development of primary or specialized social services for persons in need is area of activity of local public administration authorities, based on identified needs of population.

Protection of family and children (art. 10)

Question 23

205. In context of implementing National Action Plan on Human Rights (PNADO) a range of actions were undertaken by public authorities at central and local levels to improve legal framework, develop services to help families and promote equitable division of family responsibilities, improve services for children, streamline justice for children, combat family violence, strengthen institutional mechanisms for preventing domestic violence.

206. For adjusting legislative framework in domestic violence field, by Law No. 196, of 28.07.2016, 11 legislative acts were amended, new provisions introduced. By entry into force of new amendments /16.09.2016/ in some acts, violence manifested by aggressor was not covered by legislator; due to amendments, perpetrators are attracted to contraventional liability under art. 781 Contraventional Code, thus, alternative fine payment was abolished. In this regard, for violence acts, resulting in minor injury of body integrity, court applies sanctions to aggressor, in form of arrest or non-remunerated work, in community benefit. As temporary measure for protection of domestic violence victim, emergency restraint order may be applied, by which aggressor is immediately removed from family residence/home, by establishing range of prohibitions.

207. According new provisions, victim of domestic violence is granted state-guaranteed legal assistance, independent declaration of victim is sufficient for issuing protection order, body examination and completion of medical-legal consultation documents on body integrity gravity, are free of charge.

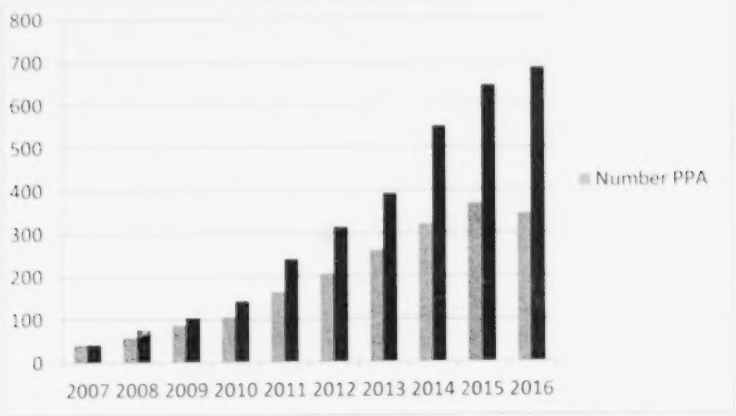
208. By Decree of President of Republic of Moldova of 15 December 2016, was approved signature of Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence.

209. Strengthening police system on fighting domestic violence is improved by defining post chief and sector officers curriculum in subordinated institutions and divisions of Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), etc. Institute of Continuous Vocational Training and Applied Scientific Research of "Stefan cel Mare" Academy of MIA are providing continuous professional training. January 2014-September 2015, project "Enhancing response to domestic violence cases, implementation of protection order by developing and piloting monitoring mechanisms for two pilot districts", was implemented, establishing cross-cutting/intersectoral mechanism of intervention for qualified specialists, competent in field of preventing and combating domestic violence. Risk Assessment Questionnaire, elaborated and tested, at various stages of Police intervention, as well, referral sheet/referral domestic violence cases introduced. Practical Guide developed within project, for police officers on effective police intervention in case of domestic violence.

Actions taken to develop childcare services:

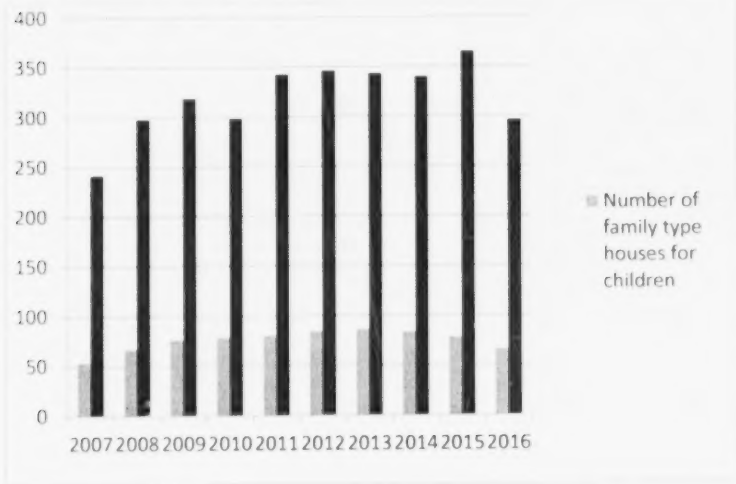
210. By GovDecision No. 760 of 17 September 2014, Framework Regulation on organization and operation of Professional Parental Assistance Service and minimum quality standards were approved, correlated to UN Guidelines on Alternative Child Care. By end of 2016, 345 professional foster parents families were employed, with 686 children in placement.

Fig. 1 Professional parenting assistance, 2007-2016



211. According GovDecision No. 937 of 12.07.2002 on approving Family type Children's House Regulation, protection of orphan children, lacking or remained without parental care, their socialization, integration and/or (re)integration in biological, extended or adoptive family, as appropriate, is the purpose of family type house/home. In 2016, 66 family homes were established, 296 children were placed.

Fig. 2 Children's Family House/home, 2007-2016



Question 24

Source: Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Education

212. Law No. 140 of 14.06.2013 on special protection of children at risk and children separated from their parents, provided a temporarily status of child left without parental care, or child left without parental care. Children with parents abroad, do not acquire status of children left without parental care.

213. According Government Decision No. 434 of 10.06.2014 approving Child Protection Strategy 2014-2020, a specific objective is reducing negative effects on children left by their migrant parents in home country. According Government Decision No. 835 of 04.07.2016 on approving Action Plan for 2016-2020 on Strategy implementation, provides for actions of protection of children with parents abroad, including:

- Regulation of legal representation of child's rights and interests, custody and legal responsibility for child raising and care (including children whose parents/sole parent are/is abroad);
- Developing informational awareness raising platform, counseling parents, including migrant parents and their children on effective communication with children, diminishing possible negative effects of migration, provide psycho-emotional support.

214. Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, together with international experts is in process of amending/complement national legislative framework on custody/guardianship, allowing better protection, including children with parents abroad.

215. Under Law No. 140 of 14.06.2013, children of migrant workers are part of risk group. In order to integrate these children into school community, avoid risk situations, ensure life and health of children, education for healthy litestyle, were carried aut activities, are provided support and included in various activities:

- Extracurricular/extra-school educational activities, as circles of interest; Activities under Children's Home Guide for Migrant Children; Children's Rights Camp; Voluntary actions; Discussions with caretaker and supervisor monitoring child behavior; Involvement in activities of school Senate; Talks with parents planning to go abroad on child psychological preparation, responsibility of persons on whom child remains. Meetings held with child carers on communication and guiding subject, to whom child was entrusted; School Master and Inter-Working Group studying situation of children left by parents with carees and relatives, organising home visits. Permanent discussions with children: How to manage ditficult cases, without parents; Who may be trusted person; Organizing activities in classroom, following aspects should be taken into account: knowledge, development and personal maturity; Preparing students to meet school requirements; Developing skills, meeting demands of social life as a whole.

216. Topics proposed for study lessons help students receive answers to important questions: What qualities do I have? How to make friends? Where to get information or help? How to become better and how to feel fulfilled?

217. Students have opportunity to practice effective communication, learning and learning skills and become aware of transferring them to different social contexts. Proposed themes of discussion have as objectives: to develop self-knowledge capacity and positive attitude towards oneself; to develop interrelation skills in various contexts; to develop skills of using information in learning process; information and learning management; to acquire exploration and career planning skills; to practice skills of managing a quality lifestyle.

- Physical development actions. Most students of migrant parents participate in sports activities, sports competitions, contests, organized in each institution on different occasions. Periodic health check is performed by healthcare. Informative activities are organized: Promote healthy lifestyle, personal hygiene of age crisis; personal physical responsibility development.
- Psychological support actions. Counseling students' program is developed, to overcome problems and it includes: 1. Emotional education; 2. Develop social skills; 3. Solve social problems; 4. Anger control; 5. Recognize aggressive behaviors.

218. Program for Prevention of Violence against Children is implemented, with emphasis on inclusion in Program „Fir de nisip"of children with parents abroad. Students with parents abroad receive psycho-pedagogical counseling of school headquarters any time needed, of ANET coordinator, masters, SAP psychologists. Psycho-emotional situation of students is investigated in case of need, all institutions are enquired to determine pupils' emotional state. Conversations with carers and relatives are produced. Children returned from abroad participate in school and extracurricular activities carried out at district level.

See more information in Question 1.

Question 25

219. By Government Decision No. 766 of 11.10.2011, was approved National Action Plan on Preventing and Eradicating Worst Forms of Child Labor for 2011-2015. Actions taken:

- Approved Regulation of National Committee for elimination of child labor (Gov.Decision No. 333 of 28.05.2012, stipulating a Committee Secretariat, provided by Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family (adoption of this Decision considerably facilitated Committee's work, which had no operating regulation and official secretariat, before);
- Approved new Nomenclature of hard, harmful and/or dangerous working conditions Government Decision No. 541 of 07.07.2014, prohibiting application of work by persons under 18, as well as, of norms maximum permissible application of manually lifting and carry weights by persons under 18;
- Conclusion of Collective Convention (national level) No. 14, of 22.11.2013, approving amendments to Collective Convention (national level) No. 8 of July 12, 2007 "On elimination of worst forms of child labor" Convention (content and obligations of signatory parties were updated);
- Adoption of Law No. 140 of 14.06.2014 on Special Protection of children at risk and children separated from parents, establishing intersectoral cooperation mechanism in field of children's rights protection;
- Adoption of Government Decision No. 270 of 8.04.2014 on Guidelines approval and inter-sectoral cross-cutting cooperation mechanism for identification, evaluation, referral, assistance and monitoring child victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking";
- Approved Referral Case of suspected cases of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking of child, by Joint Order of Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Family, Minister of Education, Minister of Health and Minister of Internal Affairs No. 154/1043/1042/293 of 08.10.2014, completed/improved educational, sanitary, cultural, protection of social assistance legal norms, irrespective of legal form of organization, State Labor Inspectorate, authorities and public institutions with attributions in field of child protection;
- Free Child Assistance Telephone Service, established in June 2014, managed by Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, implemented by International Center "La Strada";
- Developed information and awareness campaigns on child labor phenomenon, addressing to seminars, round tables, parent meetings, class hours, television and radio programs;
- Aspects of worst forms of child labor were included in continuous education programs of teachers of Civic Education and in teacher's and managerial training courses content of psycho-pedagogy module;
- Training courses organized for tutors and mayors, community social assistants, multidisciplinary team members;
- Organized community activities involving school, church, police, family doctor's centers, preventing school dropout, identifying and withdrawing children from worst forms of work, schooling them;
- Organized free meal to pupils of grades I-IV from socially vulnerable families, and V-XII grade pupils of secondary education institutions in eastern districts of Republic of Moldova and Bender, subordinated to Ministry of Education, and other categories of pupils, according norms of legal acts in force;
- Establish exemptions, according normative acts in force, for paying textbooks' rental fee for children from socially vulnerable families;
- Ensured free transportation of pupils to and from educational institutions in rural areas, over distances exceeding 2 kilometers, etc.

220. Cases of attracting pupils to agricultural works during academic year were not recorded, after issued Order No. 393 of Ministry of Education of 29.09.2014.

221. A number of new measures aimed at eliminating phenomenon of child labor have been developed:

1. Law No. 166 of 31.07.2015, was adopted, on amendment of legislative acts extending powers of People's Advocate for Rights of Child, enhancing effectiveness detecting and eliminating cases of exploitation of minors at work. People's Advocate for Child's Rights has the right to:

- Participate in Parliament's public sessions;
- Refer directly to Constitutional Court for controlling constitutionality of normative acts in force;
- Is exempt from state fees for requests to defend interests of petitioners on violations of constitutional rights and freedoms.

2. By Law No. 207 of July 29, 2016, some legislative acts have been amended, sanctions increased in form of fines provided by Criminal Code for commission of certain offenses relevant to worst forms of child labor:

- Art. 168 par. (2) of Penal Code, establishes sanctions for forced labor (including related to children), amount of fine for legal persons currently varies from 2000 to 3500 conventional units (previously — from 1000 to 2 500 units);
- Art. 206 of Criminal Code, sets penalties for Child Trafficking, size of fines for legal persons currently varies from 4 000 to 12 000 conventional units (previously — from 3000 to 9 000);
- Art. 208 of Criminal Code, establishes sanctions for attracting minors to criminal activity or their determination for committing immoral acts, amount of fines imposed on guilty persons currently varies from 350 to 1050 conventional units (previously — from 200 to 500);
- Art. 2081 of Criminal Code, sets penalties for child pornography, size of fines imposed on legal persons currently varies from 1000 to 3000 conventional units (previously — from 2000 to 4000);
- Value of conventional unit of fine applicable to criminal sanctions increased from 20 MDL to 50MDL (Art. 64).

3. By Law No. 208 of November 17, 2016, Contraventional Code No. 218-XVI of October 24, 2008 was improved, after increased value of conventional fine unit from 20 to 50 lei, increased fines provided for minor offenses:

- Article 35 of Contraventions Code (violations of labor and occupational safety and health law, including in respect to minors);
- Article 38 of Contraventions Code (admission of minors to jobs presenting danger to life and health, or integration of minors in work exercise was prohibited by law).

4. By Government Decision No. 833 of 04.07. 2016, Action Plan 2016-2020 on implementation of National Strategy on Child Protection 2014-2020 was approved. (The Strategy had been approved on 16.06.2014 by Government Decision No. 434).

Measures included in the Action Plan:

- Establishment of specialized family and child protection subdivisions within social assistance territorial structures;
- Strengthening capacity of social inspectorate monitoring performance of child protection tasks by authorities, institutions or responsible persons;
- Organizing extra-curricular activities in general education for children at risk;
- Review regulatory framework for regulating legal representation of children's rights and interests, custody and legal responsibility for child custody and care (including children with parents who parent is long abroad).

- Elaboration of normative framework on organization and functioning of street children services;
- Develop guide on internal child protection policy promoted by public and private entities working with children or where children have systematic access;
- Develop specialized psychological rehabilitation services for child victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking;
- Develop temporary emergency placement centers for children victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and traffic, etc.

Actions taken to eliminate child labor. Ministry of Education participates in actions to prevent and eliminate worst forms of child labor by:

- Monitoring training process;
- Prohibition of pupils' participation in agricultural works in educational process (Order of ME No. 387 of 17.08.2012 and No. 390 of 29.09.2014);
- Monitoring observance of existing child labor legislation;
- Cooperation with other competent authorities (Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, MAI) active on protection of children's rights, Prosecutor General's bodies, other enforced bodies;
- Since school year 2006-2011, within mandatory Civic Education discipline (1 hour/week in grades V-XII), following curricular reference contents is implemented: in minors group – opportunities and limits (XI grade), taking decisions in risk situations for life and health (VII grade), right to work, employment opportunities in country and abroad, individual work contract (X grade);
- From 2014-2015 academic year, Ministry of Education recommended implementation of "Professional Fields" module in Technological Education discipline in all IXth classes. Module corresponds to discipline curriculum. "Professional Fields" module was selected by 28031 students from 1972 educational institutions from country;
- According to the Ministry of Education Framework Plan, optional courses are proposed in gymnasium: Economic and Entrepreneurial Education, Health Education, Human Rights Education, Gender Equality Education and Equal Opportunities, Social and Financial Education, Community Development Education;
- Extracurricular activities are carried out at class level, institution, educational community (professional guidance activities during classes, excursions, meetings with legal specialists, economic agents);
- The implementation of National Action Plan on Preventing and Eradicating Worst Forms of Child Labor for 2011-2015 (Government Decision No. 766 of 11 October 2011).

222. For a greater civil society awareness and decision makers information on worst forms of child labor and consequences since 2012, continuous education programs at Educational Sciences Institute (ISE) for 9 Civic Education teaching staff, are implemented, and training courses for teachers and managerial staff, in psycho-pedagogy module, starting 01 January 2015, is promoted. Similar tasks are carried out in respective courses for university students and pedagogical colleges. Actions have being undertaken to involve pedagogues, school psychologists, academics and students in campaigns to inform civil society, parents and children on worst forms of child labor and their consequences.

223. Actions to identify good practices in career professional guidance have been organized, in partnership with Project "Munca Decenta pentru Tinerii" (Decent Work for Young People – Improving socio-economic situation of young people in Moldova through their empowerment and civil society) implemented by "Dacia" Youth Community Association for Children and Youth Rights, "Adolescent Career Guidance" Training Stage was organized on 14-16 February 2014, in partnership with CNV International Foundation and National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova, funded by European

Union through European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights. Purpose of training session: develop professionals' skills to organize career guidance and career planning for young people. Seminar was attended by 20 people from 4 districts involved in project.

224. In April 27-May 18, 2014, training courses on career guidance were organized for graduates (IX and XII); participated 400 students. Internships took place within project "Decent Work for Young People — Improving Socio-Economic Situation of Moldovan Youth by Empowering them and Civil Society".

225. In December 26, 2006-January 5, 2007, Center for Entrepreneurial Education and Business Assistance organized training for 1321 civic education teachers from general education institutions (gymnasium and high school) and 35 graduate students from CIS on implementation of European Community Ordinance "No. 859 of 04 October 2016, concerning approval of module "Personal Development and Career Design" within Civic Education and Guidance disciplines.

226. In line with Ministry of Education's Action Plan 2015-2016, following actions were planned to identify good practices in career guidance:

- Elaborate concept providing specialized career guidance services to students in gymnasium and lyceum education;
- Review and conduct analysis of professional orientation of pupils and improving teaching-learning-evaluation methods at Civic Education, Technological Education and Ethnography disciplines in gymnasium education;
- Develop and pilot parental education module for teachers' training;
- Strengthen capacities of community (tutor, social worker, nurse and teachers) in providing parental education services and organizing parenting activities for parents, educating young children;
- Elaboration of concept of family socio-psycho-pedagogical assistance.

Opportunities for work in 2017 and future

- Evidence of child labor by local public administration authorities (town hall, local social worker, social policeman);
- Effective school and community education providing attractive learning conditions — child-friendly school (interactive lessons using Internet and other modern educational technologies, organizing circles and other activities on students' interests);
- Inform parents about legality of child labor, control of LPA;
- Take appropriate measures for family responsibility for child labor exploitation.

227. In line with Activity Plan for 2017 of Ministry of Education in field of career guidance and professional orientation, ensure effective parental education through planned actions:

- Develop design and implementation of career counseling and design services as integral part of public education services;
- Provide career counseling and general education through initial training and in-service training;
- Support development of specialized institutions network, to provide career guidance and career planning services throughout life;
- Elaborate and approve National Action Plan on Implementing Strategy on Development of Parental Skills and Competencies for 2016-2020 (GovDecision No. 1106 of 05 for 2016).

228. In context of National Action Plan implementation on worst forms of child labor prevention and elimination for 2013-2018, approved by GovDecision No. 766 of 11 October 2013, Ministry of Health developed a range of activities during 2014.

229. A basic component of risk prevention and consequences of worst forms of child labor on health, through awareness raising and information of population, including among children. In 2011-2015, continued expanding Youth Friendly Health Centers (CSPTs) process, funded from mandatory Health insurance funds, as follows: 2011 — 12 CSDP, 2012 — 28 CSPT, 2013 — 36 CSPT, 2014 — 37 CSPT, 2015 — 37 CSPT.

230. Compared to 2011, in 2015 amount of expenses for contracting these Centers has increased from 2 mln. Lei to 10.94 mln. lei. During reference period number of beneficiaries who requested youth friendly health services increased from 53,066 beneficiaries in 2011, to 149,340 beneficiaries in 2014. In first half of 2015, 83,442 beneficiaries of health-related services were requested (data for 12 months of 2015 are in processing phase). As result of Youth Friendly Health Centers assessment, there is tendency of increase in number of adolescents in risk group who request youth-friendly health services from 10% in 2013, to 12% in 2015 (2011-2012 missing data).

231. Currently, there are 37 Young People's Health Centers in country, all of which are contracted by National Health Insurance Company/Fund.

232. Within Youth Friendly Health Centers, about 20,500 youth information and education activities were carried out, 1/3 of which were carried out in rural localities with 106,000 young people.

Right to an adequate standard of living (art. 11)

Question 26

233. Over last 8 years Republic of Moldova has made significant progress in reducing poverty. Poverty rate at national level has fallen from 26,4% in 2008 to 9,6% in 2015(latest available data), when poverty rate related to national poverty line (1379 lei) decreased by almost 2 percentage points. Most important factors determining poverty reduction are: remittances, increased wages and social benefits.

234. There are a number of challenges in this area, which Government committed to solve. In rural areas, poverty rate is 14.5%, about 5 times higher than in urban environment. 86% of poor people live in villages. Certain categories of population are in persistent poverty: families of small farmers dependent on farming activities, households with many children, older people, people without vocational education and skills.

235. Government's objective is to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030 according to Agenda 2030, identifying institutional and policy constraints on poverty reduction.

236. A basic action taken in 2016 was approval of Employment Strategy 2017-2021, aimed at increasing population employment level to 44.1%, growth based on economic competitiveness, skills and qualifications. Document provides specific activities as: creating jobs in rural areas and small towns, combating undeclared work, promoting formal employment, improving image of vocational and technical education, improve legal framework on lifelong learning, modernizing National Employment Agency at national and local level.

237. Economic instruments supported by Government, such as free economic zones and industrial parks, provide investors/ entrepreneurs of advantageous business conditions, over 10 thousand jobs were created in country. Other support mechanisms for business environment are state programs, supporting development of small and medium-sized enterprises, such as: "PARE 1 + 1" remittance program in economy, National Economic Empowerment Program; Credit Guarantee State Fund, Lifelong Learning Program "Efficient Business Management". Annually, is planned to create at least 900 jobs through these programs.

238. Data shows rural areas as more disadvantaged in terms of physical infrastructure, public utilities and living conditions. Only half of households in villages have access to aqueducts and 33% have sewerage system. For reducing development imbalances between rural and urban areas, has been improved physical infrastructure, public utilities and living

conditions, in line with Water and Sanitation Strategy 2014-2028, and National Regional Development Strategy was adopted by Parliament in 2016. These measures are important for increasing investment attractiveness, improving opportunities for development of tourism business, facilitating farmers' access to local and foreign markets, facilitating access of rural population to socially oriented objects, increasing employment and population welfare.

Right to an adequate standard of living (art. 11)

239. Following amendments to Law no. 304 of 22.12.2016, has been established:

- Annual indexation of minimum guaranteed monthly income at 1st April, according to annual growth of consumer price index for previous year, as established by Government;
- Use of social assistance, benefiting family in need;
- Empowering social assistance recipients: families receiving social assistance will sign cooperation agreement with Territorial Social Assistance Structures, stipulating beneficiary's responsibility using social assistance for family needs;
- Verification by Commission beneficiary's current residence, social assistance use correctness according commitments, drawing up a report of benefit use, etc.

240. According provisions of GovDecision No. 153 of March 15, 2017, after indexation, minimum guaranteed monthly income, used for calculation of social aid right, from April 1, 2017 is 961 lei (before 31 March 2017 was 900 lei). Respectively, minimum guaranteed monthly income level used to assess right to cold season aid for year (961 * 1.6 = 1538 lei) increased also.

241. By Law No. 133 of 13.06.2008, social aid was established, supporting poor families. It has two basic components — social aid and aid for cold period of the year. It ensures minimum guaranteed monthly income for disadvantaged families, established in accordance with assessment of average monthly family income and used for social assistance. In 2016, 77,157 decisions made, establishing social aid and cold season aid, inclusively, 36,507 families with children and 78148 positive decisions establishing only cold season aid, inclusively, 5,453 — families with children.

242. In 2016, by GovDecision No. 1083 of 26.10.2000, Republican Fund and local social support funds of population paid families with children, 43,594 material aids, for 43,528 titulars, totaling 27,553.7 thousand lei, average aid amounting 632 lei.

243. Material aid was granted to following categories: families with 3 and more children — 6,555 aids, for 6,517 holders, totaling 4,792.4 thousand lei; Families with children with disabilities — 7,615 aids, for 7,600 titulars, totaling 4,457.0 thousand lei; Families with one parent — 7,218 aids, for 7,209 beneficiaries, total amount of 3,988.5 thousand lei; Families with children on which guardianship is established — 1,704 aids, for 1,702 titulars, totaling 1,081.9 thousand lei; Other low income families — 20,502 aids, for 20,500 titles, totaling 13,233.9 thousand lei.

244. By GovDecision No. 889 of November 11, 2013, Framework Regulation on Organization and Functioning of Social Support Service for Families with Children was approved, oriented towards families with children, for preventing/overcoming risk situations and ensure growth and education of child in family environment. It supports development of family abilities in raising and educating child, by strengthening protective factors within family and connecting it to relevant community resources. Service is provided in two forms: primary family support and secondary family support. Beneficiaries of primary family support are all families with children in community. Beneficiaries of secondary family support are families with children at risk and/or families with children in reintegration. Families with children can benefit of money support. In 2015 social support service for families with children was developed in 19 administrative — territorial units and provided to 6,687 families.

245. Annually, transfers from state budget to state social security budget include allowances for implementation of provisions of Law on Social Aid No.133-XVI of 13 June 2008, which aims at ensuring a minimum guaranteed monthly income for disadvantaged families through granting social assistance aid for cold year period determined according assessment of average monthly family income and its need for social assistance, as follows: 2013 (financed) — MDL 311.9 million, 2014 (financed) — 334.2 million lei, 2015 (financed) — 577.7 million lei, 2016 (financed) — 821.1 million lei.

Source: Ministry of Environment

246. With World Bank support, measures were taken to improve living conditions in rural areas, including drinking water and sewerage facilities, during 2016-2017, including "Diagnostic study on water and sanitation in rural area in Moldova". Major study purpose: collect primary data and information to characterize service performance and user satisfaction with rural water supply services. Study pursued investigation on two main topics:

- Measure and assess perceptions, needs and satisfaction of rural households with regard to water and sanitation;
- Operators' providers' performance for local water and sanitation.

247. Study will be finalized and published on official Ministry's website to inform Government and donor community on water supply and sanitation sector in rural areas for future sectoral policy decisions and planning.

248. According data of local public administration authorities, in 2017, 35 of 61 urban localities elaborated development urban planning documentation, accounting 98% of all urban localities. Of 1614 rural localities, urbanization documentation was elaborated and adapted to socio-economic conditions or in developing process for 177 localities, representing 11% of all rural localities. This factor directly affects conditions of development and progress.

Source: Ministry of Health

249. Republican Diagnostic and Medical Surveillance service/country level is implemented for low and very low weight born infants, from birth till 2 years of age. 270 children in service, were in primary care in 12 months 2015, of which premature babies — 220 cases. There are 1.834 children in total.

250. In 2015, National Health Insurance Company contracted more than 12 private institutions, providing home care and health care services, including early intervention services for children.

251. Government Decision No.816 of 30 June 2016 approved Framework Regulation on organization and operation of early Intervention Services and Minimum Quality Standards.

252. For reducing vulnerability among children, were developed child protection and assistance services. During 2015, 32 mother-child couples (Chisinau — 21 couples, Balti — 11 couples) were assisted in Maternal Departments within Placement Centers (mun. Balti, mun. Chisinau) subordinated to Ministry of Health.

253. Placement and rehabilitation center for young children, Chisinau, "Respiro" Service rehabilitated 15 children; in Day Section — 135 children.

254. Placement Center in Balti municipality included 86 mother-child couples, in service providing medical care and rehabilitation to small and very small children at birth.

255. In Placement Center, Bălți, in February 2015, was opened Day section for small children with special needs (12 places). During reference period, 40 children were assisted. Through Day care Department — 321 children were rehabilitated.

256. To increase children's access to emergency pediatric emergency services and high-quality intensive care, increasing their chance and right to life and survival, having favorable impact on decreasing mortality rate in small children, in 2008, started Moldovan-Swiss Project "Regionalization of pediatric intensive care and emergency care services in Republic of Moldova", with several application phases (Phase I — 01.09.2008-30.04.2010;

Phase II: 01.11.2010-31.10.2013). In 1st project phase, activity of Resuscitation and Intensive Care Centers of Mother and Child Institute and Municipal Clinical Hospital in Balti, was organized, regulated by Ministry of Health's Order No. 841 of 27.12.2010 "Regarding regionalization of healthcare service of emergency and intensive care of children — Stage I".

257. Project Phase II — completed — reconstruction/rehabilitation of Emergency Reception Department and Intensive Care Unit of Cahul District Hospital (2013) from Founder's financial resources (about 2 million lei) and project with National Insurance Company in Medicine (1mln and 200thousand MDL ei), with procurement and installation of medical equipment in amount of 7mln lei within project (color Doppler ultrasound, videogastroscope, anesthesia machines, mobile radiological device, bronchoscope, hematological, biochemical, of gas and electrolytes etc.).

258. From project financial resources distribution system of medical gases, was installed. By Ministry of Health Order No. 1215 of 29.10.2013 "on organization and functioning of Regionalized Service of Emergency Medical Assistance and Intensive Care in Children" was reviewed Emergency and Intensive Care Assistance System for Children, targeting children with pediatric emergencies from southern regions districts of country — Comrat, Ceadir-Lunga, Vulcanesti and Cahul Hospital District, providing quality medical emergency services to patients closer to living place.

259. Regionalized pediatric emergency and intensive care service is operational in the country.

260. Phase III — Moldovan-Swiss project "Regionalization of pediatric emergency and intensive care services in Republic of Moldova" — November 2013-October 2017, finance amounting CHF 9,000,000 (CHF) — is implemented. Activities will be targeted at policy level, provider community level.

261. Based of Memorandum of Cooperation concluded between Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Health and AO CCF Moldova, with financial contribution of UNICEF, project is implemented "Small children: we understand needs, develop services, reforming system, reorganising placement centres for small children, develop alternative social services, especially for children aged 0-3 years and children with disabilities.

262. Mechanism of cross-sectoral collaboration in social and medical care fields is implemented at national level, from 2011, to prevent and reduce infant mortality rate, and at children under 5 years old, at home (GDecision No. 1182 of December 22, 2010, MS and MMPSF Order No. 121/237 of 18.02.2011)". Within this mechanism, in 2015 — were included 8,250 children under 5 years old, of which — 2,136 — children under 1 year old.

263. An innovative tool of educating parents and increasing level of knowledge on child supervision and development, signs of danger to children's life and health, is development and distribution of Child Development Book-Family agenda — starting 2013.

Question 27

264. See: Annex F Table Qs 5, 11, 27 Public spending 2011-2016; (5 — education, health care, social protection, housing and services; 11 — community mediator' services; 27 — social housing from the state budget); *Source*: Ministry of Finance.

265. According GovDecision No. 870 of 28 July 2004, on approval of Provisional Norms of Cash Expenditures for orphan students and those under guardianship in vocational and occupational schools, specialized secondary institutions and higher education institutions, boarding schools and children homes, managers of residential institutions and special educational institutions, under Ministry of Education, implementing Provisional Norms of money expenses for orphan and under guardianship pupils in boarding schools and children homes (indemnity for payment of Identity card fee, graduation indemnity, etc.).

266. According art. 8, letter b) of Law No. 75 of April 30, 2015 on housing, local first level authorities, keep records of persons entitled right to social housing and assigns social housing.

267. According GDecision No. 523 of July 11, 2011, Inclusive Education Development Program — 2011-2020, is implemented in general education and Action Plan — 2015-2017, approved by GovDecision No. 858 of December 17, 2015, on Program implementation. By end of 2017, a new Action plan — 2018-2020, will be developed on Program implementation.

268. As concerns abolition of segregated schooling (special education), stipulated by Education Code, at moment this provision was not excluded.

Social services for persons with disabilities

269. To ensure rights of people with disabilities to live independently and integrate into society, minimum quality regulations and standards have been developed and approved for organization and operation of several types of Social Services:

- "Protected home" — specialized social service, aimed to create development conditions and necessary skills for autonomous life, self-care skills, minimum living conditions for social and professional integration of people with mental disabilities (GovDecision No.711 of 09.08.2010 on approving Framework Regulation and Minimum Quality Standards of "Protected Housing" social service). There are 9 "Protected Housing" services for 26 beneficiaries in the country.
- "Community House" — social service, aimed at permanently caring people with mental disabilities and developing their self-service and social skills of: accommodation, ensuring minimum living conditions and necessary hygienic and sanitary conditions, protection and supervision of health care, medical care, care and permanent support, conditions for development of self-service and autonomy skills and favorable climate for personality development, ensuring beneficiaries access to education (GovDecision nr. 885 of 28 December 2015 on approving Framework Regulation and Minimum quality standards for community service "Community House"). In republic there are 9 "Community House" services for 51 beneficiaries.
- "Mobile Team" — specialized social service for people with medium or severe disabilities (especially children with disabilities), providing social assistance and support at beneficiary's home, counseling and support, based on identified needs (GovDecision No. 722 of 22 September 2011 on approving Framework Regulation and Minimum Quality Standards for Social Service "Mobile Team"). In country there are 19 "Mobile team" services for 583 beneficiaries.
- "Personal Assistance" — social service, aiming to provide assistance and care to children and adults with severe disabilities helping them live as independently as possible in their own home and community (GovDecision No.314 of 23.05.2012 on approving Regulation — on organization and function of social service "Personal assistance" and Minimum Quality Standards — in force since 01.01.2013). Number of personal assistants, providing services to disabled people, increased from 1367 (2013) to 2295 (2016).
- "Respiro"-specialized social service providing 24-hour assistance to people with severe disabilities for maximum 30 days per year, when families, relatives or carers benefit of rest/leave period (GovDecision No.413, June 13, 2012, approving "Respiro" organization and functioning framework Regulation and minimum quality standards). At present, 6 "Respiro" services are active in republic, for 216 beneficiaries/year.
- "Family Adult Placement" social service, aimed to provide assistance and care for adults with disabilities and older persons, for increasing personal autonomy, prevent institutionalization/ deinstitutionalization, provide social inclusion (GovDecision No. 75, 03.02.2014, approving Framework Regulation on organization and functioning of social service "Family Placement for Adults" and Minimum Quality Standards. In the country there are 41 family assistants, with 41 beneficiaries in placement.

- To facilitate communication between person(s) (deaf, dumb or deaf-dumb) and representatives/employees of different authorities/institutions/organizations in diverse situations, when interpreter is needed to exercise their rights and obligations. Interpretation Service in sign language for people with hearing impaired was approved (Government Decision No.333 of 14.05.2014 on approving Regulation on Organization and Functioning of the Service). Provision of Service is provided by Deaf Association of Moldova, from state budget, paid through Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family. In 2016, 4627 hours of interpretation were granted for people with hearing impairments, for which Ministry paid to Association of Deaf People — 169.8 thousand lei (in 2014 — allocated amount was 43.3 thousand lei).

Right to adequate standard of living (art. 11)

270. In 2013, Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions launched Project phase II on housing construction for socially vulnerable people, funded with support of Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) and local second level government. Project purpose — build in country selected municipalities, until 2018, approx.700 homes, for at least 2,500 vulnerable people. In 2014-2016 — were completed objects and distributed dwellings/social apartments, in following districts: Călărași — 40 social apartments, Briceni — 25, Singerei — 35, Hîncești — 56, Soroca — 72. Of which, two apartments have been allocated to deinstitutionalized persons (18-21 year olds), 13 apartments to families supporting children with severe disabilities and 8 apartments — for persons with severe disabilities.

271. In 2015 were launched construction of two buildings, in Nisporeni — 93 of social apartments and Ialoveni — 94 social apartments.

272. In March 2016, was launched construction in Leova city of 92 social apartments; in first quarter of 2107 — launched objectives in Fălești — 40 social apartments, and Rezina — 72 social apartments. In 2017 is planned to start implementation of last objective in Glodeni — a block of flats with 30 apartments.

Right to physical and mental health (art. 12)

Question 28

273. According National Health Policy and Strategy Health Development System, 2008 — 2017, Ministry of Health promoted de-centralization primary health care and proximity primary care services closer to people's living place. Aiming at legal delimitation and improving of primary health care performance, ensuring effective management of financial resources by primary care institutions, directly strengthening primary health care, especially in rural areas, ensuring healthcare services quality and population health.

274. Programs for Establishment of Autonomous Health Centers were found: 4 — in 2007, in 2008 — 9, 2009 — 23, 2011 — 31, 2012 — 58, 2013 — 60 Autonomous Health Centers in rural localities, totaling on January 1, 2014 — 205 autonomous Health Centers.

275. During 2013, within project "Silence is not a Solution: Abuse of elderly in Republic of Moldova", implemented by HelpAge International in Moldova, in cooperation with Gender Center, in partnership with MLSPF, with financial support of European Commission, Ministry of Health participated with topic "Access of Older Persons to Health Services". Seminars were held in following territories: mun. Balti, distr. Comrat, Orhei, Ialoveni, Cahul.

276. In 2015, according UNFPA Country Program for Moldova, workshops for primary health care workers in field of prevention and assistance of domestic cases of violence were organized in March-December 2015, in 10 Territories: Leova, Cantemir, Șoldănești, Ștefan Vodă, Criuleni, Edineț, Briceni, Glodeni, Soroca, Strășeni (for 400 specialists).

277. According GovDecision No. 1345 on providing facilities for young specialists from rural localities with medical and pharmaceutical studies, annual financial means are

allocated for renting dwellings, including granting compensations for electricity, heating agent etc.

278. On 13 October 2015, with WHO support, Policy Dialogue "Women Health and Welfare Priorities-Presentation and Discussion on WHO Regional Strategy" Women's Health", was carried out with participation of 55 people.

279. In accordance with Biennial Collaboration Agreement between WHO for Europe and Ministry of Health for 2014-2015 on improvement of women's health, between 10-12 November 2015, Trainers' Training Course was organized to adapt World Health Organization's guide to health care for women, subjected to intimate partner violence or sexual violence in Moldova. As follow-up, by end 2015, with WHO support, 3 training courses were organized for 60 specialists.

280. To Increase Capacity of Medical Workers to Identify and Resolve Multidisciplinary Victims of Domestic Violence with UNFPA support, through Women's Law Center, has been adapted UNFPA-WAVE Material Handbook (Strengthening Health System Response to Violence Based on gender in Eastern and Central Europe", designed to strengthen response of health professionals to violence against women. Between 30 November-01 December 2015, Trainers Training course was organized on basis of this module.

281. To ensure respect for rights of people with mental disabilities, including provision of ambulatory treatment alternatives, individual treatment plan, provision of judicial and independent judicial control of involuntary detention process in psychiatric institutions and prevention of abuse, a working group elaborated project National standards of mental health care services providing for organization and operation of medical institutions in line with international standards and provisions of Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

282. In May 27-June 7, 2013, a group of local experts developed study on evaluation of beneficiaries of psychiatric institutions and professionals, highlighting needs for independent living. Results of study were exhibited at various meetings, conferences and actions, developing opportunities of institutionalized people to live independently in society. Within framework for development of intersectoral partnership on implementation of National Program actions and reform in mental health sector, 29.10.2013, National Ministerial Forum was held, bringing together representatives of Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Justice, Non-governmental organizations, international bodies (WHO, UNDP) on topic "Process of deinstitutionalisation and decentralization of mental health services". Forum presented national deinstitutionalization plan, establishment of alternative services, concept of Integrated Mental Health Service, in context of implementing provisions of Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities on Right to Independent Living in Society. Forum presented comments on provisions of art. 12 of Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities on Legal Capacity.

283. Inter-ministerial working group (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Justice) jointly with local and international experts, civil society presented and exposed the bill "suport in exercise of legal capacity" and need to restructure guardianship system.

284. In 2013 was initiated process of reorganizing hospital psychiatric service aimed at bringing specialized services close to patient by reducing number of republican beds and opening emergency psychiatric beds in district hospitals.

285. A total of 270 out of 1810 beds have been reduced from specialized psychiatric institutions, as follows:

- Clinical Psychiatry Hospital — 960 beds (-150);
- Balti Psychiatric Hospital — 670 beds (-100);
- Orhei Psychiatric Hospital — 180 beds (-20).

286. In context of "Guardianship Reform" — ensuring legal protection of people with mental disabilities (responsible Ministry of Justice), on 3 November 2016 Parliament

adopted (1st reading) draft law on amending law on exercising capacity, establishing multiple safeguards to ensure legal protection of persons with mental disabilities in accordance with provisions of international instruments and case law of European Court of Justice. Purpose of project is to reform individuals' capacity, and modify guardianship institution as measure of protection of people declared incapacitated. Current legislation provides single protection measure, lack of exercise capacity and establishment of guardianship.

287. Bill proposes diversification responding to need of adapting measures to specific situation of individual concerned (temporary protection, guardianship, tutelage). Court will be able to adapt protection measure with utmost precision, allowing protected person to conclude acts of certain category or forbidding certain categories of acts, derogating from legal regime of measure.

288. Bill comes with effective mechanism, respecting the will and personal interests of person, subject to protection measure due to substitution of individual's will with that of guardian.

289. Through above nominated project, lack of capacity of individuals will be dropped by changing paradigm and whole concept of legal capacity. Individuals will benefit from protection measures tailored to each individual, in some cases, court will lay down certain conditions for some people in which they can conclude legal acts or exercise other rights and freedoms without declaring a person lacking capacity exercise. In any case, protector and family council will be obliged to take into account the will of person under protection, by applying principle of closest interpretation of person's will.

290. Project introduces a new concept for people under protection, namely concept of "decision support" which assumes that assistant allows person with disabilities to take and communicate decisions on his or her personal or social life. Person itself will make the decision, assistant will only explain problem when necessary and will interpret signs and preferences of person. If person needs total support, assistant should allow him/her exercise his/her capacity to widest extent, according to his/her wishes and feelings.

291. If protection is required, judicial protection measure must be proportionate and individualized according to degree to which person cannot be aware of his/ her actions due to mental illness or physical, mental or psychological deficiencies express the will. Protection measure will establish legal capacity, rights and freedoms of person concerned only to extent necessary to achieve the purpose of intervention.

292. (Ministry of Justice is responsible for drafting and promoting draft law in Parliament.)

Question 29

Source: Ministry of Health

293. There are currently 37 Health Centers Friendly to Young People in Moldova Republic, all contracted by National Health Insurance Company. Within Youth Friendly Health Centers, 20500 youth information and education activities were carried out, 1/3 of them carried out in rural localities with 106,000 young people.

294. According UNFPA Country Program for Moldova, workshops for primary health care workers in field of prevention and assistance of domestic violence cases were carried through March-December 2015, in 10 Territories: Leova, Cantemir, Şoldăneşti, Ştefan Vodă, Criuleni, Edinet, Briceni, Glodeni, Soroca, Străşeni (for 400 specialists).

295. On 13 October 2015, with WHO support, Policy Dialogue "Women Health and Welfare Priorities — Presentation and Discussion on Regional Strategy of WHO" Women's Health "was carried out with participation of 55 people.

296. In accordance with Biennial Collaboration Agreement between WHO for Europe and Ministry of Health for years 2014-2015 on improvement of women's health, on 10-12 November, 2015, training course was organized on adaptation of World Health

Organization's guide to health care of women, subjected to intimate partner violence or sexual violence in Moldova.

297. As follow-up, by end 2015, with WHO support, 3 training courses were organized for 60 specialists.

298. To increase Capacity of Medical Workers to Identify and Resolve Multidisciplinary Victims of Domestic Violence UNFPA support through Women's Law Center has adapted UNFPA-WAVE Material Handbook (Strengthening Health System Response to Violence Based on gender in Eastern and Central Europe", designed to strengthen response of health professionals to violence against women. From 30 November-01 December 2015, Trainers' Training course was organized on basis of this module.

Question 30

299. According GovDecision No. 1010 of 26 August 2016, Framework Regulation on organization and functioning of Regional Social Center on Assistance HIV/AIDS Infected Persons and their Family Members was approved, and Minimum Quality Standards. Regional Social Centers, representing social profile institutions, providing integrated specialized assistance services to HIV people and their families, social rehabilitation and reintegration into society, referral to other services according needs.

300. Centers are coordinated by territorial social assistance structures, methodologically assisted by Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family. Center's work results are validated by physicians in territorial, medical surveillance offices and antiretroviral treatment in outpatient conditions of HIV/AIDS infected/affected persons.

Table 11:
Situation of Regional Social Centers-HIV/AIDS Infected People-2016 (Monthly average)

Name of the Center	*Total number of monthly beneficiaries*		*Statistics percent women*	*Number of cases processed under the case management process*
	Monthly beneficiaries	*Of which women*		
Regional Social Center "Renașterea"	460	242	52.6	327
Regional Social Center "Life with Hope"	739	369	49.9	254
Regional Social Center "Together for Life"	250	130	52	110

301. By GovDecision No. 232, of 18 April 2017 — was approved Framework Regulation on organization and functioning of Integrated Social Service for Psychoactive Substance users and substitution therapy patients and Minimum Quality Standards. Service provides psychosocial social rehabilitation services and reintegration of beneficiaries.

302. Ministry of Health promoted development of mental health services at community level, integrating mental health into primary health care, according Health System Development Strategy provisions, National Mental Health Program 2012-2016, in line with World Health Organization recommendations and UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

303. For this purpose, by Order No. 610 /24.05.2013/ was approved Strategy on development mental health services at community level and mental health integration in Primary health care, 2013-2016, aimed at implementing Bilateral Agreement between Ministry of Health and World Health Organization, in partnership with UNDP and Swiss Development Agency.

304. November 30, 2013 — a workshop held "Achieving goals of Strategic Development Plan for Community mental health services and their integration into primary health care

for years 2013-2017". Workshop presented results of mental health working group on studying beneficiaries' needs living in community, within mental health institutions, concept of integrated mental health service, decentralization of mental health services within specialized psychiatry institutions, mechanisms of funding integrated mental health services at community level.

305. National Mental Health Program for years 2012-2016 was developed. By Ministry of Health Order No. 1520 of 31.12.2013 "On implementation the Decision of Ministry of Health College No. 6/3 of November 14, 2013 — decided to establish Community Centers for Mental Health in all territories of Republic of Moldova, additionally to 5 existing ones.

Right to education (arts. 13-14)

Question 31

Roma education

306. Ministry of Education monitors schooling and abandonment of Roma students aged 7-16 in districts and municipalities. Social education function is formation of national consciousness, identity and culture and promotion of intercultural dialogue. Ministry of Education promotes intercultural dialogue in relation to problems faced by Roma, Roma children, youth, educational system.

Schooling and abandonment of Roma aged 7-16

307. A large network of pre-university education institutions is developed, providing access to free gymnasium for all children, including Roma children. Ministry of Education in partnership with stakeholders, representatives of civil society, permanently organize information and awareness campaigns for parents on children registration and enrolment in education system, importance of compulsory education, gymnasium and need for study.

308. In line with international standards, since 2004, Department of Statistics is not including data on ethnicity of persons under age of 16. Roma communities involve in activities related to including children in educational process, identifying mechanisms for Roma children/pupils absent from classes, cooperate with level 1 and 2 local public authorities and non-governmental organizations promoting Roma inclusion.

309. Providing compulsory schooling for children and prevention of child abandonment — is the focus of central and local public authorities, discussed in meetings of district councils, town halls, and administrative councils of General Directorates of Education, Youth and Sport and of teaching councils of educational institutions. To Roma minors' education, home visits, conversations with students and parents are organised in districts, municipalities, joint committees, composed of collaborators of educational departments, educational institutions, in police commissariats/departments, etc. Reports of mayors and school leaders were analyzed in commissions attached to district councils, and solutions proposed regarding schooling children in special/difficult situations.

310. As result of measures taken, number of under-aged Roma minors considerably diminished. On October 15, 2016 outside official school were 79 Roma children aged 7-16, on 29.12.2016 — number of non-schooled pupils decreased to 17. Among non-schooling causes are: precarious material condition, vagabondage, exchange of living place, parents' refusal, etc. Relative dropout situation has improved. On 25.01.17, 28 Roma students dropped out of school compared to 98 students in study year 2015-2016.

Roma children's feeding

311. Feeding Roma children remains a basic condition for harmonious development, protection and strengthening of health. According to data presented by Education, Youth and Sports Directorates, 1739 Roma students are registered in the country. Feeding of these students in educational institutions is organized free of charge, as stipulated by GovDecision No. 234/ 25.02.2005 and GovDecision No. 198 of 16.04.1993.

Providing students with textbooks

112. Manual provision of students in pre-university education is entirely accomplished (100%) through «Manual Rental Scheme» managed by Special Book Fund. Under Gov/Decision No. 1340/05.10.2005, students of grades I to IV are provided with manuals free of charge. During last years, all children in 1st class, on 1st September, receive first handbook — The ABC[s].

113. Roma students from vulnerable families receive material assistance from local municipalities for purchase of school supplies and, where appropriate, clothing and footwear.

Activities of the Ministry of Education

- Ensure free transportation of children from Roma-intensive located communities, study than 3 km distance from nearest educational institution;
- Ensure introduction of prolonged study program for Roma children for homework preparation and organization of meditation classes;
- Encompass teaching and management staff in educational institutions in-service training process on intercultural education;
- Collaborate with non-governmental and public organizations of Roma, to involve them, solving problems related to including children in educational process;
- Organize and conduct trainings on cultural difference in pre-school and school education, in partnership with Roma organizations;
- Develop Guide for Community Mediators (e.g. Chapter "Education").

Roma Students De-segregation issue in "M. Eminescu" Theoretical Lyceum, Otaci, Ocnita

114. Ministry of Education solved Roma students segregation problem in IL "M. Eminescu", Otaci, Ocnita, where study 185 Roma children. Of them, 132 — primary classes students. Necessary conditions are ensured for educational process:

115. School Administration requested Ocnita Education Directorate and Ministry of Education permission for to pre-school preparatory group ("0"), for Roma children as to ensure necessary for school skills, skills and competences to later study in primary classes; they usually do not attend pre-school groups in kindergartens. From 2 September work preparatory group "0" students enrolled. Class 0 educator performs lessons in line with curriculum approved to for preparatory group.

116. [illegible] elaborated individual education plans for pre-school study for 2006-2007. Plans [illegible] and approved by Ministry of Education.

117. At technological classes Roma children groups are divided into groups, according to [illegible] interacting with other ethnicities.

118. Physical education lessons take place in parallel classes at same time, institution has [illegible] and stadium.

119. Music education lessons take place in state language, combined with parallel classes in Russian and Romanian (depend on [illegible]).

120. Despite children follow [illegible] traditions of Russian and Romanian people are organized by groups, combining parallel classes.

121. Individual plan works efficiently and successfully, no conflicts arise with children, parents and teachers. The good result of segregation of Roma students in lyceum, as result of ethno-demographic conditions in the city, has been excluded naturally.

Ensure access to higher education

122. Ministry of Education has taken concrete steps to ensure access to higher education for young Roma. Regulations on organizing and conducting admission to higher education

[illegible] p. 1.5 established share of 15% in the total number of places) for each specialty field of vocational training and educational level, according information quotas set out in budgetary plan for some categories, including Roma children. Subscription to the quota was made at candidates' request.

Question 32

121. Bureau of Interethnic Relations, established with view of educating Roma children in drawing attention to local public administration representatives and Roma population, launching public awareness raising debates on topic, seminars, round tables and 3 valuation of achievements in access to schooling of Roma children, as set out in Supporting Roma Population Action Plan for 2006-2020 (GD No. 314, June 8, 2006), is abolish in responsibility of Ministry of Education.

School Optimization Measures

124. As result of examination the situation in educational system in Republic of Moldova and evolution achieved through 2007-2008, on 01.09.2008 schools consisted of 1,139 units, which is 28 units less than 2005 and 304 less compared to 2007. Of total 1,139 schools: 275 are small school – all which 181 – gymnasiums, 94 – primary schools, accounting for 22% of total, practically at same level as in 2005. 944 or 78% of total are autonomous schools (secondary budget managers).

125. At the beginning of 2008 staff unit number in pupils' institutions (33,765 units) decreased by 828 persons compared to 2005 and by 1,921.06 compared to 2007. 8.5 thousand units since 2007 decrease due to number of pupils in primary and general secondary education institutions decreased, see Table 7.3.15, which was indicated for given year 1 Director with 2,981 pupils, Math teacher – 107 pupils, 3.11 Engineers – 208 students etc.

126. Largest reduction of pupils' contingent in 2008 was recorded in Cahul and Ungheni districts of 279 persons, Singerei 227 etc., and smallest reduction – in Rezina district – 33 persons, in districts of Soroca and Dubasari 51 and 53 pupils respectively.

127. Found in pre-school sought for 195646 students, of which 119637 are grades I-V (100%o- 1842, classes V-IX and 1974 grades X-XII (pupils from second cycle (medium) [illegible] which is about 40% of total number of students.

128. A steady positive trend has been in following indicators: average number of students in class increased slightly, from 21 in 2005 to 21.4 in 2006, average number of school children increased from 246 in 2005 to 261 in 2006, and number of students [illegible] from out of Practical Framework, remained practically unchanged at 13.5.

129. According to Education Code provisions, art. 141, point d) second local public administration authorities create efficient functioning of general education institution network, which founders are based on indicators of efficiency and performance.

130. Promoting policies in education system, Ministry of Education has competences in examining educational schemes and implementation projects.

131. Number of closed schools:

Table 17

Number of financial institutions liquidated during 2013-2016

Total	21	14	15	28	78	26
Lyceum	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gymnasium	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Primary schools	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

137. For all pupils in communities where schools were closed/reorganized, transport to nearby educational institutions is provided free of charge. Transportation is carried out with 169 school buses and 338 trained. In current study year 18/03 persons are transported to distant schools, or 9% of total number of pupils. Ministry of Education with benefit of 96 school minibuses donation by Romanian Government.

Question 33

138. By Govt.Decision No. 523 of July 11, 2011 was approved Inclusive Education Development Program for 2011-2020, providing for conditions for inclusion of disabled/disabled children in residential education, schooling and inclusion of children with special educational needs in institutions of general education. These objectives are also foreseen by Education Development Strategy 2014-2020 "Education-2020", approved by Government Decision No. 944 of November 14, 2014.

139. Ratification by Republic of Moldova of United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities, by Law No. 166-XVIII of July 9, 2010, conceptually outlined educational inclusion of persons with disabilities approach for our country.

140. Ministry of Education implements measures actions linking legal and institutional framework of child and family protection to international policies, ensuring social equity, access to quality education, overcoming residential education system of children with disabilities to community and family, providing civic education disciplines in educational complex curriculum, cross-curricularity education, promotion of physical and mental health, based on identity and uniqueness of person, right to identity, obligation to respect identity of others, solidarity with people living with HIV / SIDA, TB and disabilities, as part of new paradigm, aiming to overall problematic school and family framework towards socio-cultural environment.

141. According to Regulation, Ministry of Education determines powers, guidelines, approves strategic development of educational system, establishes and approves educational alternatives, in cooperation with other central specialized central and local public administration authorities, in accordance with legislation in force.

142. Pre-school education is first stage of education and training system, providing following forms of pre-school education for children with disabilities: inclusive education in pre-school institutions (about 750 children with disabilities, 2014/2015) and special pre-school education (10 institutions – educating 900 children with disabilities).

143. To create minimum package of inclusive education services and social services for children with disabilities, cost determination per beneficiary and financial means planning of services, was approved Regulation on redirecting financial resources to subsisting residential institutions (Government Decision No. 351, May 29, 2012).

144. Minimum package of inclusive education services was developed for appropriate accommodation of all pupils in general educational settings: municipal district service for psycho-pedagogical assistance and support services at institution level (didactic support framework and inclusive education resource center).

145. For creation of educational support conditions and services, financial resources from district education component are allocated annually, ranging from 1% to 2%.

146. For ensuring didactic-methodological support for inclusion of children and young people with disabilities, provisions imposed on developing individualized educational plan. Methodological guide on curricular adaptations and assessment of school inclusive education progress. Final assessment and certification of pupils with special educational needs included in compulsory education. Complex assessment and development of children with disabilities, carried out in presence of parents or legal representative, by district/municipal psycho-pedagogical assistance services, monitored and assisted by Republican Center for Psycho-pedagogical Assistance.

147. 35 district/municipal psycho-pedagogical assistance services elaborate recommendations on educational child inclusion, provide psycho-pedagogical assistance

[illegible] education and related fields for achievement of educational inclusion.

143. Following creation of educational services (approximately around 6,000 professionals, decision makers in area of residential child care system and development of inclusive education (local public authorities' actors, school managers, teachers, support teachers, social workers (with UNICEF support) [illegible] CCI Moldova, Keystone, Partnership for each child, MEC since 2001 Resource and Child Protection and Support).

144. Another aspect relates to research of situation in education of children with sensory disabilities and severe disabilities, conclusions and recommendations which underpin conceptualization of elevating quality education process for these categories of children.

145. Models on educational inclusion of children with sensory disabilities process will be developed, including interactive approach, environment accessibility, identification of needs of children with sensory disabilities and role clarification of educational process.

146. In technical vocational education institutions, professional training conditions are ensured, according special educational needs of persons. Students are offered equal opportunities in vocational training and graduates integrate people without disabilities. Persons with disabilities benefit from special provisions of legislative and normative acts aimed at their professional formation and integration.

147. To ensure initial teacher education process quality in higher education level and specialized environments to inclusive education field, based on decision of National Curriculum Council, on February 9, 2012, with 11 MoEK support, was approved Inclusive education course, obligatory in initial teacher education in Teacher and specialized education level. It is implemented at level of pedagogical colleges and universities, starting with September 1, 2012.

148. Implementation of 15% rule of [illegible] in vocational schools and universities.

149. According to Framework Regulation on Admission to Technical Vocational Education Institutions (colleges, vocational schools, centers of excellence), a 15% share of total number of places in budgetary plan is allocated to certain categories of persons from disadvantaged families, including children with severe and accentuated disabilities, and for children with physical and sensory impairments. According to modifications made in Regulation on Exemption from Payment of Studies Fees and pupils of Higher Education Institutions and State Specialized State Entities Registered by Contract, approved by Gov.Decision No. 329 of February 15, 2005, persons with disabilities who study at low-frequency education benefit from exemption of study fee payment.

150. According Framework Regulation on functioning [illegible] schools subordinated to state educational institutions, approved by GD No. 74 of 29 January 2007, on request, persons with disabilities receive separate space to reside on ground floor (1st being floor).

151. According provisions of Framework Regulation on organization and functioning of post-secondary technical and non-tertiary technical vocational education institutions, approved by Order of Ministry of Education No. 550 of June 10, 2015 and Framework Regulation for organization and functioning of secondary vocational technical education institutions, approved by Order of Ministry of Education No. 840 of 21.08.2019, director of institution is responsible for ensuring proper conditions for training process, ensures fulfillment of provisions of legislation Republic of Moldova, normative acts elaborated by Ministry of Education and provisions issued by local public administrations, Law No. 60 of 30 March 2012 on social inclusion of people with disabilities.

152. In secondary technical education institutions, 867 pupils with different degrees of disability are studying, in post-secondary technical education institutions – 393 pupils.

153. Within institutions of higher education are enrolled 296 people with different types of disabilities (hearing, [illegible] speech, severe emotional disorders, cerebral paralysis, locomotor). Most people with disabilities are studying at State University of Moldova (about 88 persons), Technical University (90 persons), Academy of Economic Studies (31 persons), "Ion Creangă" Pedagogical University (24 persons). Within State University of

Moldova and "Ion Creangă" State Pedagogical University, have been developed support centers for people with disabilities (visual, hearing, speech) assisting students of this category.

354. According data presented by higher education institutions, most requested specialties among persons with disabilities are: Medicine (24 persons); Law (18 persons); Public administration (10 persons); Information technologies (13 persons); etc.

355. To support people with disabilities at institutional level were:

- Elaborated individual education plans for people who cannot go to place of study;
- Reviewing forms of assessment and time needed to prepare responses for students with disabilities;
- Granted social scholarships and other material allowances from available funds;
- Create conditions facilitating access of people with disabilities to study blocks and other places, for orientation in space (ramps, access slopes, etc.);
- Accommodated people with different types of disability in hostels on preferential conditions;
- Organized treatment of persons mentioned in university clinics, etc.

356. Ensure full implementation of residential child care reform, reintegration of children with disabilities. Goal: Prevent separation of children from their families, reintegrate deinstitutionalized children into suitable substitute families (including with disabilities); provide family support services.

Monitoring implementation of reform of residential childcare system

357. System of special education institutions consists of 30 institutions, with or without residential services. Following assessment and integration of children in biological families, extended families or other alternative services, 3 residential and special education institutions ceased activity from July 2016. During 2016, were deinstitutionalised 146 children from residential institutions and special education: 121 children placed in biological families, 10 children — in extended families, 12 children — in alternative services (community type family houses, professional parental assistance, etc.). By end of 2015-2016 school year, 109 children from residential institutions graduated from gymnasium, 34 children from special educational institutions for children with sensory deficits and 106 children from special education institutions for children with severe learning difficulties, total — 249 children. Currently, 1365 children are in 21 residential and special education institutions subordinated to Ministry of Education and Local Public Authorities of second level.

358. Ministry of Education, with UNICEF support and Republican Center for Psycho-Pedagogical Assistance, analyzed situation on educational inclusion, process conducted during 2011-2015, and updated 3 concepts: General Concept of inclusive education, concept of educational inclusion of children with severe disabilities, concept of educational inclusion of children with sensory disabilities. Updated concepts encompass entire educational path of child, determines intersectoral cooperation ways, process of ensuring right to education, establishment of support services, identification of barriers in provision of education.

359. To conceptualize psycho-pedagogical, logopedic, psychological and didactic support services, psycho-pedagogical service regulation, logopedic service regulation, regulation of psychological service and teaching support regulation were revised/elaborated.

360. Regulation on organization and operation of special educational institution was approved, application of which will ensure quality improvement of educational, social and medical services for children with special educational needs (children and pupils with sensory impairments and/or severe learning difficulties).

361. Within framework of "Inclusion partnerships" project, training curriculum for inclusive education for teachers in early education institutions was finalized.

362. A web page on inclusive education is developed (incluziune.edu.gov.md), will be managed by Republican Center for Psycho-pedagogical Assistance. Site is intended for all actors involved in educational process, will contain useful information on education of children with special educational needs, accessible didactic materials, organization of thematic webs for teachers. To web page will have access people with sensory disabilities.

Psycho-pedagogical assistance and inclusive education

363. To ensure psycho-pedagogical assistance and inclusive education at national level, Republican Center for Psycho-pedagogical Assistance, institution subordinated to Ministry of Education, is coordinating and monitoring activity of District/Municipal Psycho-Pedagogical Assistance Services employing 218 people (35 heads of service, 57 psychologists, 33 speech therapists, 35 psycho-pedagogues, 67 pedagogues and 11 physiotherapists).

364. To identify successful changes following implementation of National Program and Action Plan for Development of inclusive education in Republic of Moldova for 2011-2020, in order to evaluate efficiency and effectiveness of services provided by Psychological Assistance Services, a set of indicators was elaborated. Evaluation process of Psychological Assistance Services based on developed indicators was initiated in 2016 (Order of Minister of Education No. 503 of 25.10.2016).

365. To ensure quality educational process focused on needs of child with special educational needs, Concept on individualizing educational process through curricular adaptations was developed. A Guide on Individualization of Educational Process was developed as support for teaching staff in design, realization and monitoring of individualized assistance of child with special educational needs.

366. Process of continuous training of teachers on ensuring rights to education in general environment for children with disabilities continues. In order to unify approaches in this field, Recommendations were developed on updating education programs from point of view of child-centered education and inclusive education.

367. To ensure exchange of experience between Psychological Assistance Services were organized:

- 3 workshops with participation of representatives from 11 Psychological Assistance Services (Order of Minister of Education No. 525 of 04.11.2016);
- 6 consultancy activities for 240 specialists from Psychological Assistance Services and OLSDI (provisions of minister of education No. 240 of 02.06.2016 and No. 447 of 23.09.2016);
- 4 methodological seminars referring individualized approach, depending on intervention context (psychological, psycho-pedagogical, logopedic, pedagogical) for 247 specialists from Psychological Assistance Services (Order of Minister of Education No. 87 of 04.03.2016);
- 8 methodical seminars on education of children with autism, children with hearing and vision disabilities, developed in partnership with KulturKontakt Austria for about 160 specialists of psychological assistance services and Republican Center for Psycho-pedagogical Assistance (provisions of Minister of Education No. 162 din 15.04.2016, No.239 of 23.05.2016, No.311 of 12.07.2016, No.515 of 28.10.2016, No.638 of 29.11.2016);
- 5 practical workshops on educational inclusion of children with autistic disabilities, organized for 89 specialists from educational institutions and psychological assistance services (Order of Minister of Education No. 185 of 23.09.20161);
- 6 workshops on education of children with hearing deficiencies, organized for 76 teachers and specialists from 16 psychological assistance services (Order of Minister of education No. 526 of 04.11.2016);
- 4 training modules on organization of educational process and assistance of children with special educational needs, carried out in Orhei and Sangerei districts for 70

support teachers and chairmen of multidisciplinary intra-school commissions (order of Minister of Education No. 24 of 02.02.2016).

168. Progress has been achieved on children reintegration, including those with disabilities: plans for transformation of boarding houses for children with mental deficiencies, subordinated to Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, were elaborated and approved by orders of Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Family. Have been undertaken actions to de-institutionalize beneficiaries and (re) integrate them into community. According statistical data submitted by boarding houses for children with mental disabilities, in 2016, 28 beneficiaries were reintegrated into community (on 31.12.2016, 133 children, of the total of 185 beneficiaries, were still placed in boarding houses for children with mental deficiencies).

169. For implementing Inclusive Education Development Program, in 2016 started reorganization of special education for children with auditory-hearing deficiencies, after evaluation of situation of each child, it will be reintegrated into biological or extended family. In other cases, children will be enrolled in special institutions within Chisinau municipality, which will be developed according to international quality standards.

Question 34

170. Since 2000, Bureau of Interethnic Relations in collaboration with ethnocultural associations, Ministry of Culture, local public administration, annually organizes Ethnic Festival "Unity through Diversity". In 2016, Festival was in XVth edition. Event contributes to valorization and perpetuation of national minorities' traditions, intensification of intercultural dialogue, consolidation of cooperation between authorities and civil society, increasing number of organizers and participants each year.

Ethnocultural identity of national minorities and interethnic dialogue is promoted in diverse events. In 2016 were organized

- International Day of Mother Language (21 February 2016);
- Novruz Bairam feast organized at initiative of Azeri Community of Republic of Moldova (March 20, 2016);
- Mardenitsa feast organized by representatives of Slav community (March 13, 2016);
- Commemoration of Grand Kobzar of Ukraine-Taras Shevchenko, considered spiritual father of Ukrainian nation (March 7, 2016);
- Cultural events on occasion of International Roma Day, organized in partnership with Roma Voice Coalition and Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (7-11 April 2016);
- Presentation of ancient custom "Spring Call" by Belarusian Diaspora of Republic of Moldova at initiative of Public Association "Belarusian Cultural Movement of Moldova" (April 10, 2016);
- 14th edition of Republican Children's Festival "Get Out, the Rebellion!" Organized on International Children's Day events (May 29, 2016);
- 12th edition of Pluri Natal International Art Festival (28 May, 2016);
- Actions dedicated to Days of Slavic Writing and Culture in Republic of Moldova (23-29 May 2016);
- International Bloom of Ukraine (Vasilcauti) organized at initiative of Ukrainian Women's Community of Moldova (UCM), Mr. Ukrainian Youth Organization (19 May 2016);
- Painting exhibitions of famous artists from ethnocultural organizations on International Family Day (May 15, 2016);
- 1st edition of International Musical Competition "Music Competitions", held at "Serghei Lunchevici" National Philharmonic (June 12, 2016);

- Photo exhibition "Родная сторона/Plai Natal" of President of Public Association "Belarusian Cultural Movement of Moldova" (June 3, 2016);
- International Children's Day celebration for children in ethno-cultural organizations (2 June 2016);
- XVth edition of Republican Festival of Ethnicity "Unity through Diversity" (September 20, 2016);
- Inauguration of Belarusian Cultural Center, during official visit of Belarusian Prime Minister Andrei Kobeacov with participation of members of Belarusian ethno-cultural organizations in Republic of Moldova (October 3, 2016);
- Festive concert organized on occasion of Polish Independence Day in partnership with Polish Spring Day in Moldova (November 11, 2016);
- Winter Holiday Festival "New Year at Dose Bate" (December 29, 2016).

Promoting public access of minorities and ethnic groups to professional art values

371. National cultural values and public access to them, including ethnic minorities, was promoted by Ministry of Culture organizing events, initiating bilateral partnerships, according signed Agreements/Memoranda, as follows:

- Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Culture, Tourism Agency and Competitiveness Project funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on assistance for supporting development of Cultural-Natural Reservation "Orheiul Vechi" and its promotion as tourist destination during 2016-2017 (21.04.2016);
- Administrative Arrangement between Ministry of Culture of Republic of Moldova and Ministry of Culture and Communication of Republic of France on cooperation in cultural heritage field (21.04.2016);
- Cultural cooperation Protocol between Ministry of Culture of Republic of Moldova and Ministry of Human Resources of Hungary-2016-2018 (18.05.2016). Document includes cooperation activities related to cultural heritage protection, book publishing, cinematography, cooperation and exchange of experience, aiming to extend and enhance relations between organizations and competent authorities of both countries;
- Cooperation Program between Ministry of Culture of Republic of Moldova and Ministry of Culture of Slovak Republic for 2016-2020.

Providing access to professional art values

- Support for International Music Festival "Mărțișor-2016", a festive concert held at National Philharmonic "Serghei Lunchevici", OCT "Moldova Concert", Organ Hall and National Theater of Opera and Ballet "Maria Bieșu";
- Promoting contemporary art film, by supporting International Documentary Film Festival "CRONOGRAF-2016".

372. Other major supported events:

- International Contest "Eugen Coca", a unique event in South-Eastern Europe, a musical space for young people;
- International Festival of Scenic Arts "Eugene Ionesco Theater Biennial";
- The Ethno Jazz International Festival 2016 and International Festival of Theater and Film Schools "ClassFest".

373. Amateur artistic activity carried out mainly within territorial administrative units, stimulated by involving subordinated institutions in groups attestation process (National Center for Conservation and Promotion of Intangible Cultural Heritage). Attestation decision issued (based on Regulation of activity of amateur artistic groups from Republic of Moldova, approved by Order No.199 of 5 October 2015). Amateur artistic groups include representatives of national ethnic minorities. Their activity represents social involvement

and participation, stimulating population, representing important instrument of public enlightenment.

374. In 2016, 3,463 artistic amateur groups were involved in cultural activities, of which 847 are "model" artistic amateur groups, which consist of 17,964 members. According to ethnic criteria, following amateur artistic groups are active in Republic of Moldova: Russians — 47, Ukrainians — 29, Gagauz — 19, Bulgarians — 11, Roma — 3, Czechs — 1.

375. Involvement of ethnic minority groups in organizing and conducting events such as: European Heritage Days, International Museum Day and European Night of Museums, Ethnic Festival, Exhibitions of national costumes of world people "United in diversity".

Promoting intercultural dialogue and spirit of tolerance through cultural and art works

376. Promoted intercultural and interethnic dialogue contributes to preservation and development of cultural identity, traditions and customs of social groups in Moldova.

377. Ministry of Culture annually launches contests, from state budget funding, and cultural projects of public associations, according "Regulation on ways of financing from state budget of cultural projects carried out by public associations", approved by GovDecision No.834 of 08.10.2014.

378. Regulation offers opportunity and equal access to financing of cultural projects submitted by public associations from socio-cultural field, including representatives of ethnic minority groups, implemented on principles of free competition and diversity.

379. For ensuring equal opportunities for all applicants to funding, criteria for selection and financing of cultural projects are applied on a non-discriminatory basis and transparency, ensuring everyone's access to information on application procedure, contact details of responsible person, which are available on institution's website.

380. In 2016, funding was granted to:

- Cultural Project of KEDEM Jewish Cultural Center "Moldovan Music: Traditions and Future, for organizing and conducting International Music Contest of Young Performers "Zlata Ţeaci";
- Foundation of Moldovan-Japanese Relations "Japanese Culture Festival Bunkasai-spiritual Japan";
- OWL TV STUDIO for organizing and conducting "International Documentary Film Festival CRONOGRAF";
- AMPRENTI ART CENTER for International Painting Symposium "Orheiul Vechi-2016";
- Union of Composers and Musicologists from Moldova, supporting International Festival "Days of New Music", XXV edition.

381. Annually are launched contests for collection of offers for national book publishing Program, according Regulation on selection, editing and purchase of national book from state budget financial resources, approved by GovDecision No. 256 of 12.04.2013. Respecting general criteria for selection of book titles, in 2016 were published five titles in Russian: Белое пятно: книга рассказов; Жалбэ /Диана. Между двумя мирами = Between two worlds; Некрасова Татьяна. Трудовая книжка: книга стихотворений; Поиск любви: Anthology of prose; Нотрак Леонид. Статья-Юга, день девятый: Tales.

382. A number of national events involving different social categories were organized and held by Ministry of Culture, emphasizing and promoting authentic cultural values of ethnic minority groups. On Moldova's Independence Day celebration, Costume Parade is organized. At Parade are promoted traditional costumes of citizens of Republic of Moldova: Moldovans, Gagauz, Bulgarians, Ukrainians, and Russians.

383. At initiative of Ministry of Culture, Parliament adopted Decision No.194 of 19 November 2015, establishing Traditional Costume Day, a feast of national character. At

first edition, held on 26 June 2016, in Palace of the Republic, were exhibited 140 costumes, including traditional costumes from 8 ethnic groups — Gagauz, Bulgarian, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Roma, Belarus, Jewish. Promotion of the intangible heritage took place, including organized artistic events. Artistic groups performed traditional songs reflecting culture of each ethnic groups, as basic conceptual criteria of the event.

384. Integration and promotion of cultural heritage of ethnic minorities was part of major national events: "Ia" Day; National Carpet Fair "Covorul Dorului", attended by representatives of ethnic minorities — Ukrainians, Gagauz, Bulgarians, Azerbaijanis, Turkish people. At third edition of Fair, held 4 December 2016, ethnic minorities were predominantly involved.

385. To promote culture of specific ethnic groups, at Fair were exposed traditional carpets of various countries, represented by embassies accredited in Republic of Moldova. Embassy of Azerbaijan in Moldova, Turkish Embassy in Moldova and Bulgarian Embassy in Moldova have exhibited their cultural heritage.

386. Events within National Carpet Fair were organized on elaboration and promotion of candidate file "Traditional wall-carpet craftsmanship in Romania and Republic of Moldova" — joint event of Republic of Moldova and Romania for inclusion in UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Village of Gaidar has been selected as one of localities for protection of traditional wall-carpet craftsmanship listed on UNESCO List (Gaidar Carafi tissue center working in culture house premises).

387. On 1 December 2016, UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage has decided to include traditional wall-carpet craftsmanship in Romania and Republic of Moldova on Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity — a joint file of Republic of Moldova and Romania.

388. Ministry of Culture is founder of State Enterprise-Impresario and Concert Organization "Moldova-Concert", annually finances subsidiaries — folk songs and dances ensemble "Kadînja" from Comrat city (Gagauz representatives) and ensemble of songs and folk dances "Rodoliubie" from Taraclia city (Bulgarian representatives). These groups regularly participate in cultural and artistic events, including international ones.

389. Ministry of Culture finances activity of State Enterprise Russian State Drama Theater "A.P. Cehov", State Enterprise Theater-Studio "C. Ytianu Pui", House-Museum "A.S. Pushkin", ensemble of gypsy songs and dances "Roma Enigma" of Culture and Art Center "Gintа Latina".

Ensuring citizens' access to information by implementing library automation and computerization project

390. For developing libraries and ensure access of citizens to information, Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Culture and AO IREX Moldova is implemented by "Novateca" Program, aimed to modernize public libraries, equip with technical equipment, train staff on information technology and providing public services, etc. Program is applied in libraries of localities mostly inhabited by national ethnic groups.

391. Taraclia District, which is predominantly populated by Bulgarian speaking population, Novateca Program is implemented in 23 libraries, in Gagauzia program is implemented in 26 libraries.

392. A part of program' activities were implemented by Development Program Regional Centers of Excellence, within which was selected public library from Ceadîr-Lunga. District Training Center Ceadîr-Lunga aims to provide and organize advanced training for managers and librarians, provide support in diversifying new library service through participation in study visits and exchange of experience at national and international levels.

393. International project Center for Statistics, Research and Development (CSRD) contributes to development of electronic services as a result of fruitful collaboration between Republic of Moldova and USA (represented by Ministry of Culture and Novateca, Global Library Program of Republic of Moldova). Center collects library statistics on-line across country. Switching statistics in automatic function opens up new perspectives for

library management. Access to information of population is ensured, including by supporting and organizing large events, as follows:

- Inauguration on 14 April 2016, of XXth edition of International Book Fair for Children and Youth. Event organized by National Section of Republic of Moldova of International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) in partnership with Ministry of Culture and other public institutions of the country.

394. Most important achievements on promotion and popularization of literature for children and youth:

- International Book Fair for Children and Youth gathered, at this year edition, over 120 publishers and book distributors from 9 countries which provided 15,000 titles of publications to visitors.
- 31 August-4 September 2016 was organized Booktest in Chisinau. The offer of publishing houses participating both from Moldova and Romania included over 50,000 volumes from different fields.
- Participation of Republic of Moldova, during 19-23 October 2016 at 68th edition of world's largest Book Fair in Frankfurt, Germany. Republic of Moldova national stand at Frankfurt Book Fair was a project of Ministry of Culture in partnership with Union of Publishers of Republic of Moldova, with support of Embassy of Republic of Moldova in Berlin and General Consulate of Republic of Moldova in Frankfurt am Main. For participation in the fair were selected 143 titles from 11 publishing houses.

395. Book collections of national libraries contain books in languages of national ethnic minorities: Russian, Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Gagauz, Polish, Hebrew, Armenian, Romanian. In Book fairs organized by national libraries are participating publishers with titles of publications in languages of national minorities: Russian, Gagauz and Bulgarian.